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Cummins and Lyon seal thrilling win

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SC clears Central forces in West Bengal

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Tuesday upheld a Calcutta High Court decision to allow for Central security forces to enter West Bengal to ensure free and fair panchayat elections on July 8.

A Vacation Bench of Justices B.V. Nagarathna and Manoj Misra reasoned that West Bengal has a "history of violence" during polls and the upcoming local polls was a mammoth exercise involving elections to 75,000-odd seats. Polling would take place across 61,636 booths in just one day, requiring adequate security measures.

Governor C.V. Ananda Bose visits the Raj Bhavan control room to inspect the complaints received of violence over the polls. ANI

"Holding an election cannot be a licence for violence. There has been a history of violence...We appreciate that you are a State having a democratic set up right up to the grassroot level where elections are taking place, but, at the same time, elections cannot be accompanied by violence," Justice Nagarathna addressed the State government.

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 12

Pak. inks deal with China for nuclear power plant

Press Trust of India
ISLAMABAD

China on Tuesday signed an agreement worth $4.8 billion with cash-strapped Pakistan to set up a 1,200-MW nuclear power plant as a sign of increasing strategic cooperation between the two "all-weather allies".

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif witnessed the signing of the deal under which Beijing would build the nuclear plant at Chashma in Mianwali district of Punjab. "We will kick start it without any further delay," Mr. Sharif said.

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 12

Monsoon showers hit city; rains likely for five days

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The intermittent rain, which lashed Bengaluru on Tuesday, is likely to last for the next five days.

According to the India Meteorological Department, Bengaluru, the rains, which began early Tuesday, are monsoon showers.

"The monsoon advanced into some parts of Karnataka on June 10 but now has become active and entered up to Raichur and as a result of this, we are witnessing rains," said A. Prasad, scientist, IMD, Bengaluru.

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 7

Narendra Modi waves to supporters as he arrives in New York. REUTERS

PM Modi lands in U.S., many events in pipeline

Sriram Lakshman
WASHINGTON DC

Prime Minister Narendra Modi arrived in New York in the early afternoon of Tuesday on his first state visit to the United States. He is scheduled to lead the International Day of Yoga at the United Nations on Wednesday before flying to Washington DC for the core of his state visit.

"Landed in New York City. Looking forward to the programmes here including interaction with thought leaders and the Yoga Day programme tomorrow, 21st June," Mr. Modi tweeted.

Mr. Modi was received in New York by India's Ambassador to the U.S., Taranjit Singh Sandhu, and India's Permanent Representative to the United Nations, Ruchira Kamboj.

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 12

Assam Rifles plans to secure lifelines of Manipur hills

Reinforcements deployed to ring-fence a bridge key to supply essentials to tribal districts; both sides plan blockade of vital routes to the State

Vijaita Singh
NEW DELHI

The Assam Rifles has moved additional troops to secure a bridge on a National Highway in south Manipur, the only route for essential supplies to the tribal district of Churachandpur in the violence-hit State.

A source said that additional columns were moved after security forces picked up chatter from Valley-based Meitei insurgent groups which were planning to damage the bridge at Sinzawl on National Highway 102 B, which connects Manipur with neighbouring Mizoram.

With highway blockades and the armed cadres of insurgent groups – both Kuki and Meitei – threatening free movement, the transport of essential supplies to people across the State has been endangered.

Roads blocked

On the one hand, Churachandpur, a Kuki-dominated area in the south of the State, has been getting essential supplies by road from Mizoram as protesters have blocked access from the northern Imphal Valley regions. This key road from Mizoram is now being threatened by Meitei insurgents. On the other hand, Kuki groups in the north have blocked the main supply route to the Meitei-dominated Imphal Valley, forcing a fall back on an alternative route.

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 12

On guard: Local residents stay alert after fresh violence in Manipur's Kanto Sabal in Imphal West on Tuesday. ANI

SC refuses urgent hearing on plea

NEW DELHI
The Supreme Court refused to list a plea by the Manipur Tribal Forum Delhi (MTFD) for Army protection to the Kuki tribals urgently, and termed the ethnic violence a "purely law and order issue". » PAGE 12

Hard to restore Internet: Manipur

NEW DELHI
With the State telling the HC in Imphal that it would be difficult to restore Internet access while blocking social media sites, the court has now sought a reply from Internet service providers. » PAGE 12

NEARBY

Cong. protests against Centre for denying rice

BENGALURU
The ruling Congress staged protests on Tuesday in all district headquarters against the Centre for "denying" selling rice for the Anna Bhagya scheme. » PAGE 8

Govt. to redo BBMP ward delimitation

BENGALURU
The State government,armed with the HC order on delimitation, will redraw ward boundaries across the BBMP limits in 12 weeks. » PAGE 2

Students to get egg, banana, or chikki once a week

BENGALURU
The State government has reduced the amount of egg, banana, or groundnut chikki, provided as supplementary nutrition for children of classes 1 to 8, from two days a week to one day. » PAGE 4

OPPORTUNITIES » PAGE 7

The incredible hulk who has overcome personal tragedy and injuries to make a huge statement

Shot putter Tajinderpal Singh Toor , who put to shade the Asian record at the inter-State meet, dedicated the feat to his late grandmother who played a big role in his remarkable journey

ATHLETICS

Aashin Prasad

Tajinderpal Singh Toor had broken his own shot put National record and Asian record with a massive throw of 21.77m under floodlights in Bhubaneswar at the Inter-State Championships.

While Tajinder was pleased with the outcome of a phenomenal feat, there were no over-the-top celebrations. "I am not happy," he says. "My *dadi* (grandmother) passed away three days back." The loss was so personal for Tajinder that he considered skipping the Inter-State meet, which is the qualifier for the Asian Games.

"At first, I didn't feel like coming here but it was compulsory for everyone to come here and play. I just wanted to get in a few throws and leave," says Tajinder.

In the final, his first attempt was a big 21.09m – no one else in the field got to even 20m – followed by a foul throw, which was long too. When he threw his third attempt, he knew it was a record as soon as it went past the 21m mark. When the official reading was announced, he let out a roar and looked to the skies with his hands raised in thanks. His throw of 21.77m booked him a berth at the World Championships in Budapest in August.

"When I realised I broke the record, I got a little emotional. My eyes went moist and I was thinking about my grandmother. I want to dedicate this competition to my *dadi*," he says, acknowledging the role she played early in his journey. "My *dadi* was the one who used to support me a lot before I had a job. When I was in Canada, she would send me money and help me a lot. I never had any sponsorship then."

Big man, bigger deeds: Tajinder, who literally dominates the shot put field, has taken the honours at all the continental-level meets. RITU RAJ KONWAR

It has been a tough couple of years for Tajinder with injury setbacks and personal tragedies. After his previous National record throw (21.49m) in 2021, there were high hopes for him at the Tokyo Olympics. But a fracture to his throwing hand in the lead-up to the Games meant he ended the campaign on a disappointing note.

The 28-year-old had missed the World Championships and the Commonwealth Games last year after surgery to the fractured hand. Then in December, his wife had to undergo an abortion due to a complication in the pregnancy.

Despite all the misfortunes, Tajinder believes the higher power above him will lead him the way. "*Jatke tho lagte hai ji* [setbacks do happen] then god gives his hand and pulls you up," he says.

Tajinderpal stands at 6'4" and weighs 150 kg. He wears size 13 shoes, which he orders in from overseas, and throws a 7.2kg iron ball. While his frame can intimidate many, Tajinder considers himself to be a gentle giant.

"People are afraid of me and think I am very rude. They think I am aggressive but I am only that way on the field and in weight training. Otherwise, I am very soft," he laughs.

Tajinder wasn't a big man while growing up back in his village of Khosa Pando in Punjab. His lasting memory from school is these words of his teacher: 'Tajinderpal Singh, get out of my class'.

"Studies would just go over my head. My teacher used to beat me a lot over my studies and I would just stand outside," says Tajinder, who hails from a family of farmers. "I felt I wanted to do farming or work in the sun outside. Never felt like studying."

Before shot put, cricket was the sport he tried his hand at. "I used to play local cricket in my village but my dad would yell at me and say 'What are you doing playing cricket? Play some individual events instead'", he remembers.

Tajinder, who writes with his right hand and uses his left to throw, says he didn't even know what he was doing when he first picked up an iron ball. "My throwing technique was all wrong and people used to wonder why was I rotating the wrong way because I was left-handed," he says.

Given his achievements – Asian Games gold, Asian Championships gold and Asian indoor championships gold among others – Tajinder would not have many complaints.

As he heads home from here to grieve his late grandmother, Tajinder would hope the testing times are behind him and he can look forward to defending his crown at Hangzhou in three months' time.

The scouting network in a footballing ecosystem — the Charles way

Abhishek Saini

A nascent football career is nurtured and prepared for take-off by three wise heads. First, the coach who nurtures talent. Second, the agent who secures lucrative deals and endorsements. The third – in a true sense the first – the scout.

While the first two, on most occasions, get their share of the limelight, the third forever toils far from the public eye.

"How many know who scouted Ronaldo or who scouted Messi?" asks Steve Charles, when *Sportstar* approaches him during the Reliance Foundation Young Champs' (RFYC) Naupang League.

Charles, at present the Head of Scouting for the Reliance Foundation's grassroots projects, serves as the perfect example of the important role a scouting network holds in a footballing ecosystem.

"We're the unsung heroes," Charles says.

After playing for Pune FC from 2008 to 2011, Charles moved to coaching in 2014 with Indian Super League club FC Pune City.

In 2019, he took a scouting role with the RFYC.

"I joined Reliance at Young Champs in 2018 as an under-14 coach. Then in 2019, the opportunity for scouting came. Honestly, I had no clue about what was happening," he says.

"But it was always a passion to give opportunity to kids. That was the thought behind it. And I just took up the role without knowing what was in front of me."

With no official training programmes, RFYC's existing network of scouts and their database were his first teachers.

"I studied a lot on my won. I relied purely on the need of the academy. I think coaching helped a lot because I knew what type of players RFYC is looking for. That was a starting point for me to get into understanding what is needed," he says.

Early into his new role, Charles was convinced that a map of India was going to hold him in good stead. India's football ecosystem, however weak or strong one might perceive it to be, is a cumulation of 29 States. Each offers a different terrain, and different conditions and has a bearing on what kind of players turn up from the region.

As he started frequenting the length and breadth of the country, Charles understood the intrinsic traits offered in a region, and how that can be used to finetune his search.

"It (diversity) changes quite a lot. Players up north are bigger in frame. In the Northeast, they are not among the tallest but are tough. Down south, you see a lot of creative players. Sivasakthi is the most recent example. They are not physically big but are runners. They are box to box. Lot of endurance in them. The question is, 'Can we improve (other parameters)?' Yes, we can," Charles says.

Genetics too often come to Charles' aid in decision-making. He takes the example of a kid who plays in the defence but likes to move higher up the pitch with the ball.

"If he is playing as a centre-back, and he is not moving out of position, I know that he understands the role. If he also comes into the midfield and tries to open play, then there is a possibility. This is a naked-eye observation.

"I look at his parents. They are tall, he will grow at least as much as his father. Perfect! A potential centre-back in the future. (On the contrary) Parents are slightly shorter. We know he is not going to grow much, likes to come into midfield and we think 'Can he play as a number six? Can he play as a number eight?' So, it is not only the player we have to watch. We must look around and try to figure out things."

Quest for perfection: As he started frequenting the length and breadth of the country, Charles understood the intrinsic traits offered in a region, and how that can be used to finetune his search. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

This idea of scouting players, identifying their strengths, and then working on them laid the seeds for Mizoram's Naupang League. A competition for age groups ranging from under-7 to under-13, to scout players early and offer them a head start.

Charles, along with other scouts from the organisation, visited four districts of Mizoram – Aizawl, Champhai, Lenglui and Kolasib – to look for talent. The last trip in June was his seventh of the year.

"You need a lot of ground staff and administrators. In a day there is very little you can seek. You cannot do justice to all players in a day. So, it was a process where we kept watching these players. We wanted to ensure that every player gets enough time," Charles says.

Charles' inclination towards repeated trips of the State is borne from his playing details. In 2012, he won a scholarship to Blackburn Rovers Football Club.

In Blackburn, Charles had his first experience of modern football training.

"I trained with the reserve teams. I had the luxury of sharing the dressing room and training with David Raya (currently playing for Brentford), Gamst Pederson and Danny Murphy.

"There, you come to the training centre at 9 a.m. You have breakfast. You have a chat with the different departments – sports science, video, and so on. You see your previous day's footage. Then you get into gym sessions, followed by recovery. Then you have a team session together. So, it is a proper routine."

His philosophy as a scout was shaped by Phil Cannon. A former scouting head for Everton Football Club, Cannon brought Wayne Rooney into the club. Before that, Cannon nurtured Theo Walcott in Swindon Town's youth academy.

"He was the head of the academy (at Blackburn Rovers). What I saw was they discussed players and their development every three months. They had a big board where they made different segments – Premier League, first team, Championship, second division, non-league football.

"They had the entire Academy players written there and they grade them. Who they think is Blackburn Rovers first team, who they think is Premier League level, who they think should be transferred.

"That is the level of discussion and thought they put in. It is important to invest that much time in a player and discuss the pathway for them," Charles says.

It is the system that Charles feels is needed if India wants to have a bigger talent pool. While ISL teams have worked towards creating a similar environment, Charles feels there is ample scope for improvement.

And at the heart of this will have to be a well-established network of scouts. "If more ISL teams establish this type of system, I think a lot of homegrown talent will be pushed."

Govt. to redo BBMP ward delimitation in 12 weeks; Cong. alleges draft submitted by 'non-existent' panel

The delimitation commission submitted the report one year after the tenure of the body ended, sources in the Congress claimed

Shreyas H.S.
BENGALURU

The State government, which is now armed with the High Court order on delimitation, will redraw ward boundaries across the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) limits in a span of 12 weeks, a time period stipulated by the court. Minister for Transport Ramalinga Reddy will supervise the delimitation.

Sources in the Congress alleged that a draft of the exercise was submitted to the government by a commission which was non-existent at the time of submission. Documents furnished before the High Court and accessed by the *The Hindu* revealed that delimitation was notified by the previous BJP regime on July 14, 2022, while the final notification was issued after the tenure of the delimitation commission ended. The tenure of the commission that was constituted on January 29, 2021, ended on July 29, 2021.

The State government will redraw ward boundaries across the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike limits. FILE PHOTO

Term extended

The then government had stated that the commission submitted its report on June 23, 2022. Interestingly, during that time, the commission was non-existent. On the other hand, the government, after issuance of the final notification, extended the term of this non-existent commission *post facto* on August 6, 2022.

Mr. Reddy alleged that the previous BJP government had notified the delimitation committing multiple violations and on the same argument, the present government sought time to redo the same, to which the court agreed. Besides, ward demarcation was done to favour the BJP MLAs, he alleged.

Faraway wards

In many areas, wards were demarcated in such a way that the streets located next to BBMP ward offices in the 198 wards set up were clubbed with faraway wards. This was done to allegedly split or consolidate votes, he said.

On the other hand, in some Assembly segments, the number of wards were either increased or cut down not based on population, but based on voter base.

"For instance, in RR Nagar, the number of wards have gone up from 9 to 13, while in Jayanagar, it was cut down from 7 to 6. These were done on the insistence of local MLAs and MPs. Every single mistake carried out by the previous government will be rectified. In Shivajinagar and Shantinagar, boundaries were demarcated to split minority votes," Mr. Reddy alleged.

On being asked what steps will be taken by the new government on demarcation, he said a deliberation will be held to arrive at a proper decision. Mr. Reddy said the previous government did not follow Delimitation of Ward Guidelines, 2014, for urban local bodies. As per this guideline, procedure of deviation is allowed to an extent of 10%, but he alleged that the deviation was more than 12%.

'Officials ignored'

Mr. Reddy pointed out that the approach for delimitation should be bottom up: the revenue officials draw boundaries based on population and other factors. In the latest work, this approach was missing and officials were ignored, he added.

Nature index: IISc ranked number one

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Indian Institute of Science (IISc) has been ranked number one in both overall and academic categories of the latest annual nature index.

"IISc has been ranked #1 in India in both the overall and academic categories of the 2023 Nature Index Annual Tables. The rankings recognise high-quality research contributions in diverse disciplines," IISc tweeted.

Second on the nature index is Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), followed by Homi Bhabha National Institute (HBNI), Indian Institute of Technology Bombay (IIT-Bombay), and the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research (TIFR).

Govt. keen on new Bill that may split BBMP in the three-month breather provided by High Court

K.V. Aditya Bharadwaj
BENGALURU

The three-month respite given by the Karnataka High Court to redo delimitation of wards in the city has breathed a fresh lease of life on the government's plan to bring in governance reforms, including splitting the civic body into multiple corporations.

Though the State government reconvened the BBMP Restructuring Committee led by B.S. Patil, which had recommended splitting the civic body into five corporations with 400 wards in 2015, it was feared that if the court orders immediate civic polls, the reform agenda may be derailed.

"As long as we hold civic polls within a stipulated time, the courts are not against reforms to the system. So, time is the essence to implement our governance reforms," said a senior city Congress MLA.

The only way to effect the changes the Congress is championing is to bring in a new law to govern the city, replacing the BBMP Act, 2020, brought in by BJP. The Congress manifesto for the 2023 Assembly polls also promised a new law to govern the city.

In fact, the BBMP Restructuring Committee had come out with a Greater Bengaluru Governance Bill in 2015, which is reportedly being tweaked. "If worked on a priority basis, the Bill can be tabled in the upcoming session of the State legislature," a government functionary said. But the State Cabinet is yet to take a call on this.

The tweaked Bill reportedly operates like a modular Bill without stipulating the specifics of the number of corporations and wards, providing much elbow room for the State government to decide on these specifics and effect them through executive orders. The Bill reportedly provides for municipal corporations in the city to be in the range of 1-10 and doesn't specify the number of wards. However, multiple sources in the Congress said the government is keen on splitting BBMP into three corporations.

The 2015 Bill provides for a decentralised three-tier governance structure - a strong empowered ward committee, a zonal committee headed by the zonal commissioner, and a Mayor-in-council at the corporation level. Over this, the Bill provides for a Greater Bengaluru Authority with a jurisdiction of Bengaluru Metropolitan Area and will include heads of parastatals, Mayor, elected representatives, with BDA as its secretariat.

The Congress manifesto promised something similar: An agency under which all parastatals will be brought. Over this, will be the constitutionally mandated Bengaluru Metropolitan Planning Committee at the regional level with Bengaluru Metropolitan Region as its jurisdiction and BMRDA as its secretariat and chaired by the Chief Minister.

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Farmers celebrating at Singhu, on the border with Delhi, in December 2021? **What were they celebrating?**

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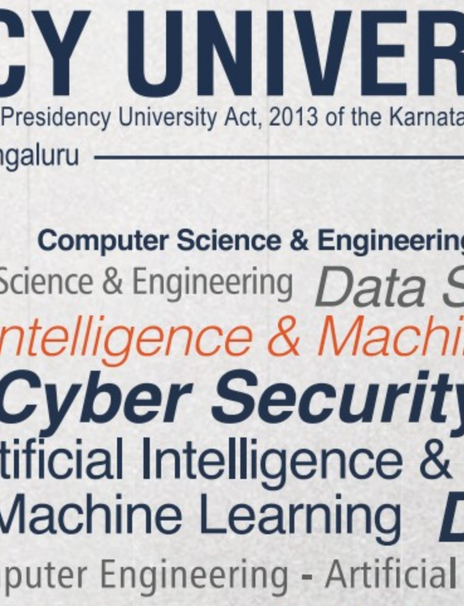

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A BG-BGE

Climate breakdown: the Arctic Ocean could be ice-free by the 2030s

Considerable effort has been invested in determining when the Arctic Ocean might first become ice-free in summer, a.k.a. a 'blue ocean event' . We do not know exactly when the last blue ocean event happened, but one in the near future would mean open water at the North Pole for the first time in millennia

Jonathan Bamber

The Arctic Ocean could be ice-free in summer by the 2030s, even if we do a good job of reducing emissions between now and then. That's the worrying conclusion of a new study in *Nature Communications*.

Predictions of an ice-free Arctic Ocean have a long and complicated history, and the 2030s is sooner than most scientists had thought possible (though it is later than some had wrongly forecast). What we know for sure is the disappearance of sea ice at the top of the world would not only be an emblematic sign of climate breakdown, but it would have global, damaging and dangerous consequences.

The Arctic has been experiencing climate heating faster than any other part of the planet. As it is at the frontline of climate change, the eyes of many scientists and local indigenous people have been on the sea ice that covers much of the Arctic Ocean in winter. This thin film of frozen seawater expands and contracts with the seasons, reaching a minimum area in September each year.

The ice which remains at the end of summer is called multiyear sea ice and is considerably thicker than its seasonal counterpart. It acts as barrier to the transfer of both moisture and heat between the ocean and atmosphere. Over the past 40 years this multiyear sea ice has shrunk from around 7 million sq. km to 4 million. That is a loss equivalent to roughly the size of India or 12 UKs. In other words, it's a big signal, one of the most stark and dramatic signs of fundamental change to the climate system anywhere in the world.

As a consequence, there has been considerable effort invested in determining when the Arctic Ocean might first become ice-free in summer, sometimes called a "blue ocean event" and defined as when the sea ice area drops below 1 million sq. km. This threshold is used mainly because older, thicker ice along parts of Canada and northern Greenland is expected to remain long after the rest of the Arctic Ocean is ice-free. We can't put an exact date on the last blue ocean event, but one in the near future would likely mean open water at the North Pole for the first time in thousands of years.

One problem with predicting when this might occur is that sea ice is notoriously difficult to model because it is influenced by both atmospheric and oceanic circulation as well as the flow of heat between these two parts of the climate system. That means that the climate models - powerful computer programs used to simulate the environment - need to get all of these components right to be able to accurately predict changes in sea ice extent.

An aerial view of an iceberg in the Arctic Ocean in September 2018. ANNIE SPRATT/UNSPLASH

Melting faster than predicted

Back in the 2000s, an assessment of early generations of climate models found they generally underpredicted the loss of sea ice when compared to satellite data showing what actually happened. The models predicted a loss of about 2.5% per decade, while the observations were closer to 8%.

The next generation of models did better but were still not matching observations which, at that time were suggesting a blue ocean event would happen by mid-century. Indeed, the latest IPCC climate science report, published in 2021, reaches a similar conclusion about the timing of an ice-free Arctic Ocean.

As a consequence of the problems with the climate models, some scientists have attempted to extrapolate the observational record resulting in the controversial and, ultimately, incorrect assertion that this would happen during the mid 2010s. This did not help the credibility of the scientific community and its ability to make reliable projections.

The scientists behind the latest study have taken a different approach by, in effect, calibrating the models with the observations and then using this calibrated solution to project sea ice decline. This makes a lot of sense, because it reduces the effect of small biases in the climate models that can in turn bias the sea ice projections. They call these "observationally constrained" projections and find that the Arctic could become ice-free in summer as early as 2030, even if we do a good job of reducing emissions between now and then.

> Arctic sea ice is an important component of the climate system. As it dramatically reduces the amount of sunlight absorbed by the ocean, removing this ice is predicted to further accelerate warming, through a process known as a positive feedback

There is still plenty of uncertainty around the exact date - about 20 years or so - because of natural chaotic fluctuations in the climate system. But compared to previous research, the new study still brings forward the most likely timing of a blue ocean event by about a decade.

You might be asking the question: so what? Other than some polar bears not being able to hunt in the same way, why does it matter? Perhaps there are even benefits as the previous US secretary of state, Mike Pompeo, once declared - it means ships from Asia can potentially save around 3,000 miles of journey to European ports in summer at least.

But Arctic sea ice is an important component of the climate system. As it dramatically reduces the amount of sunlight absorbed by the ocean, removing this ice is predicted to further accelerate warming, through a process known as a positive feedback. This, in turn, will make the Greenland ice sheet melt faster, which is already a major contributor to sea level rise.

The loss of sea ice in summer would also mean changes in atmospheric circulation and storm tracks, and fundamental shifts in ocean biological activity. These are just some of the highly undesirable consequences and it is fair to say that the disadvantages will far outweigh the slender benefits.

(Jonathan Bamber is professor of physical geography, University of Bristol.) This article is republished from The Conversation.

THE GIST

The ice which remains at the end of summer is called multiyear sea ice and is considerably thicker than its seasonal counterpart. It acts as barrier to the transfer of both moisture and heat between the ocean and atmosphere. Over the past 40 years this multiyear sea ice has shrunk from around 7 million sq. km to 4 million sq.km. That is a loss equivalent to roughly the size of India or 12 UKs. In other words, it's a big signal, one of the most stark and dramatic signs of fundamental change to the climate system anywhere in the world.

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BIG SHOT

Aquatic threats: A plastic bag floating in the Indian Ocean near the town of Ahangama in Galle, Sri Lanka. The first international treaty to protect the high seas was adopted on Monday, at the United Nations — an official baptism for a "historic" agreement aimed at limiting threats to the ocean and its vital ecosystems. AFP

QUESTION CORNER

Sunny side to the light

Q: Why and how does the sunflower always face the Sun?

A: Certain flowers such as sunflowers are strongly attracted to the Sun. They begin the day facing east and then follow the Sun. This is because of a phenomenon called phototropism.
Phototropism is a growth-mediated response of a plant to stimulation by visible light. The response is stimulated by a hormone called auxin present in the stem.
Auxins promote lengthwise growth of plants. The auxin beta-indoleacetic acid is formed either from the amino acid tryptophan or from the breakdown of carbohydrates known as glycosides.
They promote growth by acting on the chemical bonds of carbohydrates on the cell wall.
In positively phototropic plants, when one side of the plant is shaded, greater quantities of auxin are produced on the darker side. This causes that side of the plant to grow fast. In the case of sunflowers, the phenomenon is pronounced so as to make the flower turn towards the Sun.

A sunflower garden. GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCKPHOTO

For feedback and suggestions
for 'Science', please write to
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with the subject 'Daily page'

RESULT: JEE (Adv.) 2023

ALLEN TRANSFORMING DREAMS INTO REALITY

37 STUDENTS IN TOP 100

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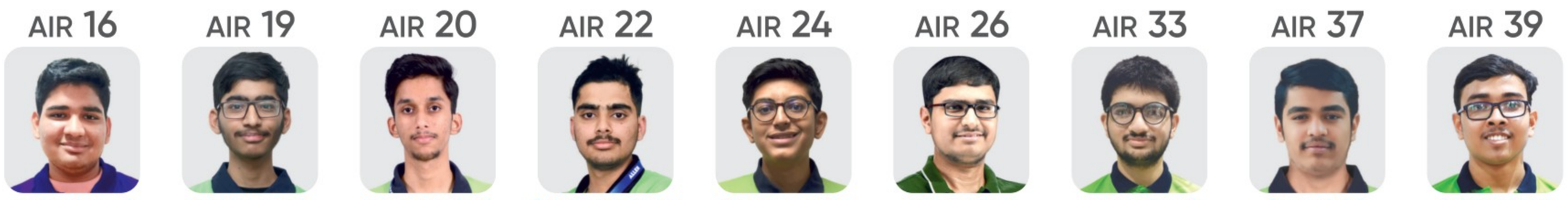
Power of ALLEN

Raghav Goyal — Classroom
Prabhav Khandelwal — Classroom
Malay Kedia — Classroom
Nagireddy Balaaji Reddy — Distance Learning



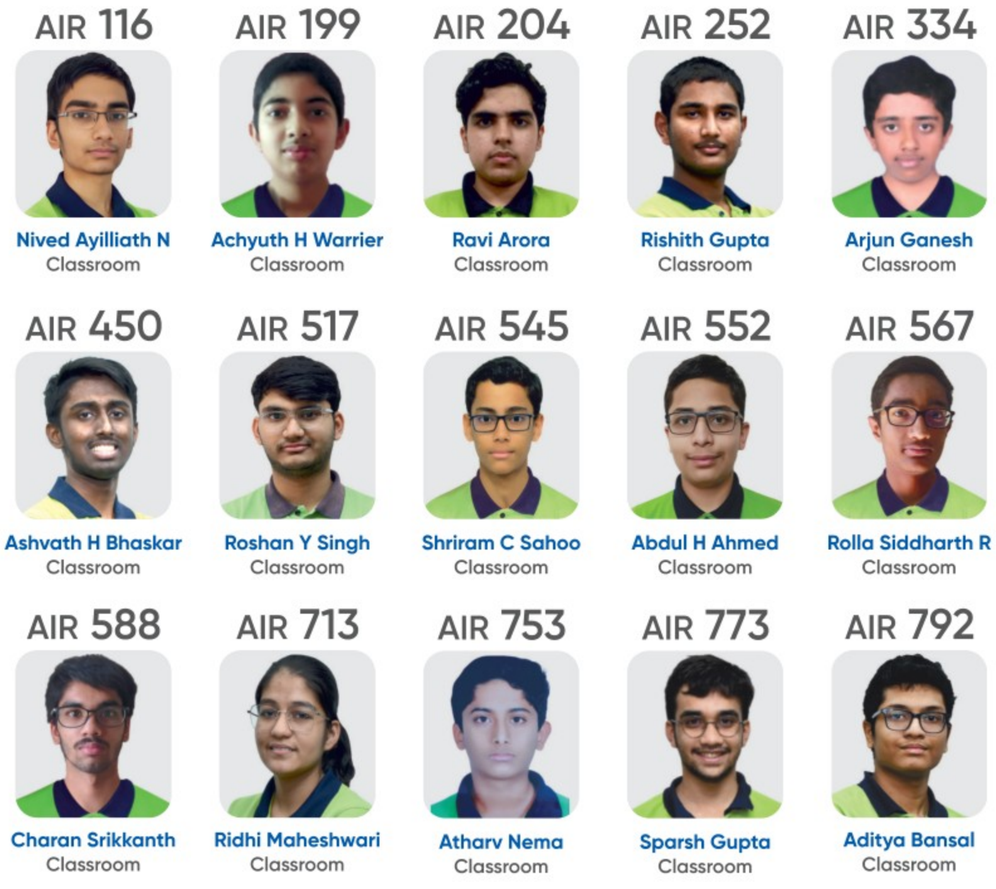
✔ 19 Students in Top 50
✔ 64 Students in Top 200
✔ 158 Students in Top 500

Students Qualified
6647
CCP: 4637
DLP: 2010

ALLEN BENGALURU : JEE (ADVANCED) 2023 RESULT

Vihaan Luhariwala — Classroom
Tanish S Khurana — Classroom
Nandha Gopi K N — Classroom

✔ 03 In Top 100 AIR
✔ 09 In Top 500 AIR
✔ 25 In Top 1000 AIR
✔ 89 In Top 5000 AIR
✔ 149 In Top 10000 AIR



As per result compiled till Date 18 June 2023 (10:00 PM)

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A BG-BGE

PotHoleRaja's battle against bumpy roads in Bengaluru goes into campaign mode

Around 4,000 accident deaths per year can be directly attributed to potholes, says Sourabh Kumar, co-founder of city-based social venture that aims at making roads safer and better

Preeti Zachariah
BENGALURU

India may be the biggest democracy, possess the largest postal network, have the highest number of official languages, and be home to close to 75% of the global tiger population. But there is one ranking we could do without: No 1 in fatal road accidents globally, recording 1,55,622 deaths from road accidents in 2022. This is something that the people behind the PotHoleRaja hope to change, one road at a time. "We want to bring India down from below 10 in the number of road accident fatalities," says Sourabh Kumar, the co-founder, and director of this Bengaluru-based social venture. In an attempt to get one step closer to this goal, PotHoleRaja has recently launched The Great Indian Pothole Fixing Drive, one of their many initiatives to make Indian roads safer and better.

City-agnostic

Talking about the campaign, launched on Earth Day, April 22, Mr. Kumar says, "We are city agnostic. We are not saying that because our headquarters are in Bangalore, we will do only Bangalore roads," he says, adding that the company already has multiple partners across India. Since they have seen a lot of "demand and issues across the country", they thought of creating a mission at a nationwide level "where we can have engagement with different companies and cities," he says.

"According to government data, around 4,000 accident deaths per year can be directly attributed to potholes," says Mr. Kumar, who estimates that the numbers are much higher, maybe even ten times more. "The data that gets captured is of people who fell because they drove into a pothole," he says, pointing out that it does not account for those accidents that occur when people try to avoid potholes.

Since 2016

PotHoleRaja's battle against bumpy roads began back in 2016 when Dr. Prathap B. Rao, a former fighter pilot, began thinking about the country's bad roads.

When he went abroad, people would tell him that India's culture was good and its people were very friendly.

But they also often mentioned that the roads were a mess and the traffic was terrible, states Kumar.

"That was something he wanted to change," he says, talking about the other co-founder of PotHoleRaja, a Ph.D. from Harvard University.

So, he began researching and collecting data about potholes, encouraging citizens to report the presence of potholes.

'But he realized that just getting reports about potholes weren't enough. The loop had to be closed," says Kumar, adding that by September or October that year, Mr. Rao had fixed his first pothole.

In January 2017, Mr. Kumar – who was then working as a software engineer – came on board, first as a volunteer and then joining Mr. Rao full-time. "We have been running it together ever since," he says, adding that they work closely with corporates and citizens to keep India's roads pothole-free. So far, they have fixed 30,000, he adds.

Grid Mats, a patented product made from 100% recycled plastic waste; PotHoleRaja founders Prathap B. Rao (left) and Sourabh Kumar; (below) a potholed road in Bengaluru.

So, how does it work? If you spot a pothole on a road you frequent, all you need to do is send them a photograph and GPS location of a specific pothole. "We will ask our team of volunteers to check it out," he says, adding that based on the severity of the issue, it can be fixed as part of a volunteer drive or by using a specialized team, raising the required funds to do so either via the CSR route or people from the community. They also try to ensure that whoever has donated to fix the potholes, whether it is a corporate or a private individual, volunteers in the fixing process. "We want them to be part of it, understand what is going on," he says.

Creating roads that will not wear out

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

PotHoleRaja is now trying to go one step beyond, attempting to create roads that will not wear out and develop craters so easily. "While we went deeper into understanding the issue, we realized that the road infrastructure hasn't gotten an upgrade for a very long time, which was why the issue (of potholes) was coming up repeatedly," says Sourabh Kumar, the co-founder, and director of the Bengaluru-based social venture.

From recycled plastic

Enter Grid Mats, a patented product made from 100% recycled plastic waste, introduced in 2020-21, that can "help make roads in such a way that potholes do not happen."

And yes, the cost of making these roads using Grid Mats is much lower, both in monetary and environmental terms. "As a smart city concept, we would want that our waste does not go out of a city," says Kumar, adding that using this plastic to lay roads can have a significant impact on carbon emissions.

Used 64 tonnes

"Currently, we have used over 64 tonnes of plastic waste in various projects," he says, pointing out that the usage of Grid Mats has resulted in close to 7 lakh carbon emission reduction, the amount emitted if one drove a car for 28 lakh km. "You'd have to plant 3400 trees to offset that."

A bad stretch of road at Adugodi in Bengaluru after a heavy spell of rain. FILE PHOTO

Civic body says it has filled 900 potholes from April 1 till now

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

With the monsoons here, the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) says it is geared to keep the city's roads smooth, filling over 900 potholes from April 1 to June 19. And while the BBMP does expect more potholes to emerge due to rain, it claims that it has all the measures in place to address the issue, when it arises.

Cold mix asphalting

The civic body is using cold mix asphalting technology to fill potholes, a procedure that B.S. Prahlad, Chief Engineer (Road Infrastructure), BBMP, says is more efficient than machines and will result in more hardy roads.

The BBMP has already set up a cold mix plant and is making this asphalt that can be spread out without the use of machines. "With a cold mix, we can attend to a pothole even in the heaviest rains," says Mr. Prahlad, adding that at present nearly all potholes are filled. Even if the potholes resurface, the BBMP promises to fix them when it receives complaints from the citizens via its new Fix My Street app, launched earlier this year, which is available for download on the Google Play.

With help from GPS

"People can register complaints about potholes on this app," says Mr. Prahlad, adding that this is one of the best methodologies adopted by the civic body. "We can transparently identify and cover the potholes," he says, adding that citizens need to upload photos on the app with GPS identifying the location.

Minister promises world-class tree park on NGEF premises

The erstwhile New Government Electrical Factory in Bengaluru. FILE PHOTO

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A world-class tree park will be developed on the sprawling campus of the erstwhile New Government Electrical Factory (NGEF) at an estimated cost of ₹30 crore by retaining the existing greenery as it is, Medium and Large Scale Industries Minister M.B. Patil said on Tuesday.

He was speaking after watching a presentation on the development of the proposed tree park while he chaired the preliminary meeting convened in this regard. The final decision will be taken soon after discussing it with Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, he added.

Out of the total 105 acres of land, 70 acres are covered by dense greenery where various species of trees exist. Apart from this, out of the five industrial sheds which exist one is in dilapidated condition. The four industrial sheds which are in good condition will also be retained without making any changes, he explained.

The tree park will be developed in two phases.

In phase 1A, works worth ₹11 crore will be taken up and in phase 1B works worth ₹15 crore are being planned, he explained.

Further, works in Phase 2 will be taken up after the completion of Phase 1A and Phase 1B, he said.

City runners finish 89-km Comrades Marathon in South Africa

A total of 403 participants from India, including 42 women, took part in the marathon this time

Jahnavi T.R.
BENGALURU

Three runners from Bengaluru - Ramesh Rao, Bindu Juneja and Gagan Sethi completed the Comrades Marathon, one of the world's oldest ultramarathons (since 1921) which takes place in South Africa and covers a distance of approximately 89 km, on June 11. A total of 403 participants from India, including 42 women, took part in the marathon this time.

The run began at Pietermaritzburg and ended at Kingsmead Stadium in Durban.

While there were 84 participant countries, India had the largest international running contingent this year. Last year, only 150 members from the country participated.

"It was quite a challenge as we had to run around five mountains and elevation of 1,100 metres. It was also a timed run meaning that we had to finish the run within 12 hours. We also had five interim cut offs. The temperature is another factor. While it was 6 degrees in the morning when we started, by afternoon it was around 23 degrees and by the time we ended the run, it was 16 degrees there," said Ramesh Rao, who completed the marathon in 10 hours 46 minutes.

The Comrades Marathon, one of the world's oldest ultramarathons (since 1921) takes place in South Africa and covers a distance of approximately 89 km. This year, the run began at Pietermaritzburg and ended at Kingsmead Stadium in Durban, on June 11.

Like many other runners, completing the Comrades Marathon was a dream for these runners from the city too. "Completion of this was on the bucket list for me. It was my first time running with Indian flag on my chest. It gives you a very different kind of motivation to run and make our country proud," stated Gagan Sethi, who took 10 hours 54 minutes to finish the run.

All three runners underwent around six months of training. They have been running half, full and ultra marathons for approximately eight years now.

"It is not just about running. It is about strengthening your muscles too and preparing your whole body for the run," Mr. Sethi remarked.

One of the 42 women runners who took part in the marathon this year was Bindu Juneja. Despite holding a full-time job as a teacher, she said that she could efficiently also train for the run.

"Usually, we only see two or three women in ultra marathons and seeing over 40 runners only meant something this time. As women, we limit ourselves to half marathons or 40-km runs. But we have the ability to multi task and we should indulge ourselves in these activities and make our country proud," she said. Ms Juneja took just 9 hours 57 minutes to finish the marathon.

FROM THE ARCHIVES
The Hindu.

FIFTY YEARS AGO JUNE 21, 1973

Nijalingappa Wants Snap Poll

BANGALORE, June 20: The former Congress president, Mr. S. Nijalingappa, to-day challenged the Prime Minister, Mrs. Gandhi, to prove her claim for popularity by ordering general elections immediately as she did for a mid-term parliamentary poll in 1971.

Addressing a press conference, Mr. Nijalingappa charged the Central Government and Congress-run State Governments with failure on all fronts and said that the only remedy was to see that the Government was "sent out" of office as early as possible and a "more responsible" Government came in. The country demanded it, he said.

Enumerating the "failures" of Mrs. Gandhi's government, Mr. Nijalingappa claimed that the administration to-day, had reached the "lowest levels of morality, bribery and corruption." The Government was, however, fortunate in the sense that in spite of all this, public opinion had not deserted it.

Opposition Fast Before Residence of Urs

BANGALORE, June 20: Nineteen Opposition members of the Assembly began a three-day hunger-strike in front of the official residence of the Chief Minister, Mr. Devraj Urs in the High Grounds area, here this morning demanding the convening of a special session of the Assembly to discuss the report of the Committee on Public Undertakings. The Minister for Agriculture, Mr. K.H. Patil, has been criticized in the report for transactions involving the State-Agriculture Industries Corporation and the Gadag cooperative textile mills.

Students to get egg, banana, or chikki only once a week

One item will be given per student once a week from June 20 to July 15 or until further order

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The State government has reduced the amount of egg, banana, or groundnut chikki, being provided as supplementary nutrition for children from classes I to VIII, from two days a week to one day.

A circular was issued by the Director, PM-Poshan, School Education Department, in this regard.

According to the order, in the first phase, one egg or banana/groundnut chikki will be distributed from June 20 to July 15 per student a week or until further orders from the government.

The government started distributing boiled eggs, banana, or chikki as supplementary nutrition along with midday meals to the students of class I to VIII studying in government and aided schools across the State in 2023-24.

The government started distributing boiled eggs, banana, and chikki along with midday meals to classes I to VIII in government and aided schools across the State in 2023-24. FILE PHOTO

The distribution first started in seven districts of Kalyana Karnataka region from December 1, 2021, where the malnourishment indicator was alarming, under the Pradhan Mantri Shakti Nirman programme.

The Commissioner for the Department of Public Instruction had submitted the proposal to the government to provide egg, banana, or chikki to the students of classes I to X across the State for 100 days in the academic year of 2022-23 at a cost of ₹347.11 crore.

Finally, the government gave approval to give egg, banana, or chikki to classes I to VIII for 46 days this academic year. So, students were getting egg, banana, or chikki with midday meals weekly twice.

Speaking to *The Hindu*, Ritesh Kumar Singh, Principal Secretary, Department of School Education and Literacy, said: "Since we started this programme, certain weeks, we gave two eggs; 46 eggs in year, one egg per week for three months, and two eggs per week for four months. Last year, in November, December, January, and February, we gave two eggs per week. The reason was that last year, even though it was 46 eggs for the entire year, we started only in August 2022. In August, September, and October, we gave only one egg per week."

"We request to the Finance Department to make it two eggs per week and 80 eggs per year is still pending. But the decision will be taken during the State Budget finalisation. For now, temporarily, we will give one egg per week for the next four weeks," he added.

Three killed in accident on expressway

The Hindu Bureau
MYSURU

Three persons were killed when the car by which they were travelling met with an accident at Gejjalagere on Bengaluru-Mysuru Expressway on Tuesday.

The car, carrying Neeraj Kumar, 55, his wife Selvi, 50, their son Srivatsava, and driven by Naveen Kumar, was proceeding towards Mysuru from Bengaluru. An oncoming SUV lost control, toppled over the median, and crashed into it.

While Neeraj Kumar, Selvi, and Naveen Kumar were killed in the accident, Srivatsava was admitted to Mandya Institute of Medical Sciences. A case has been registered.

'Make parental consent mandatory for free bus travel for minor girls'

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

As the Shakti scheme for free travel for women in State-run ordinary buses has kicked in, the Child Rights Trust wants the government to make parental consent mandatory for minor girls.

In a letter to Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, the Trust cited a recent incident of children from Bengaluru going to Dharmasthala because their parents scolded them for eating chocolate. The police rescued the children and handed them over to their parents.

The letter stated: "We need to learn from this case, and there is a necessity to enforce some rules during free travel for the benefit of children. Even if they are bored at home or school, children may board a bus and go to another city."

Nagasimha G. Rao, director of Child Rights Trust, told *The Hindu:* "Every day, we see various children rescued by either police or NGOs at bus stations, railway stations, and other places. According to National Crime Records Bureau data, in 2021, 2,157 children below the age of 18 were reported missing. Of these, only 1,550 children were traced. Therefore, it is the right time to make parental consent mandatory for free bus travel in Karnataka."

PUBLIC NOTICE

The General Public is informed that our clients **Jitumani Bhattacharya s/o Bhabendranath Bhattacharya and Jyoti Sarma w/o Jitumani Bhattacharya** intends to purchase the property described in the schedule herein from **M/s Bricks and Milestones Projects LLP** (hereinafter Developer/ seller). The Developer/seller represents and warrant that it is the absolute owner of the schedule property and it has not conveyed or entered into any Agreement to Sell/MOU or any sort of agreement with any other person/s, for sale/transfer of the schedule property and that the Developer/seller further represents and warrants that it has not encumbered, mortgaged or created any lien on the schedule property in any manner and apart from it no other person/s, includes legal heirs, Firm or Company having any sort of right, title or claim over the schedule property. Any person/s having any objection/s or claim/s shall with documentary evidence lodge their objection/s, claim/s, within **Seven(07) days** from the date of this notice with the undersigned, failing which my client shall proceed with the above mentioned transaction.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of **Flat No.408** on **4th Floor,** B Block in **"Wonder wall" Phase 3,** measuring SBA of 1525 sqft, and 476 sqft UDS, with one covered car parking space, constructed on Sy No.15/1, 139/1, 139/2 and 12/3 totally measuring 4 Acre 02 guntas, E Khata no.150200100100620457 and 150200100100622499 converted for residential purposes situated at **Sompura Village, Sarjapura Hobli, Anekal Tq, Bangalore Dist, Bangalore.**

Prashanth B.K, Advocate,
No.17, Sir M V 2nd Cross, Kalkere Main Road, Ramamurthynagar
Bengaluru-560016 M : 09900056401
Bengaluru Date : 21-06-2023

32% students clear II PU supplementary exam

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Karnataka State Examination and Assessment Board (KSEAB) announced the II PU supplementary exam results on Tuesday, and 32% students cleared the examination.

This year, of the 1,58,881 candidates, 1,57,756 appeared and 50,478 candidates managed to pass.

The KSEAB had allowed even those who had missed the main exam due to shortage of attendance to attend and 313 such candidates appeared. However, only 49 passed. The supplementary exam this year was conducted between May 23 and June 6 at 304 examination centres across the State. The results are available at https://karresults.nic.in

Even in the supplementary exams, girls outshined boys with a pass percentage of 34.74. Urban students performed better than their rural counterparts registering 32.69% and 29.37%, respectively.

The highest number of students appearing for the supplementary exam was from arts stream - 70,952, followed by 52,511 in commerce, and 34,293 in science. The highest pass percentage was in science with 38.6%, followed by 32.23% in commerce, and 28.64% in arts. Students can apply for revaluation.

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby notified that my clients have agreed to purchase the Schedule Property from its owners namely, **(i) Smt.P.Karthyayaniamma (ii) Sri.Vijayan M.V (iii) Sri.M.V.Sankaran (iv) Smt.Nalini M.V (v) Smt.Baby Sasidharan** (wife and children of Late Sri.V.K.R Nambiar), residing at No.135, 2nd Cross Road, Jakkasandra Block, Koramangala, Bangalore – 560 034.The said owners have represented that the 5th page of the original sale deed dated 3rd December, 2022 executed by BDA in favour of Smt.P.Karthyayaniamma, registered as Doc.No. BDA-1-02911-2022-23 stored in C.D. No. BDAD1217 is lost/misplaced and that the owners have not given the same to anybody and that the owners have freehold, subsisting marketable title over the Schedule Property.

Apart from the said owners, if any other person/s have any manner of right, title and or interest or claim or charge or lien over the Schedule property or otherwise have any lawful objection/s for sale of the Schedule Property by the aforesaid owners, they are hereby called upon to file their objection/s in writing, along with the photocopies of documents on which they rely, with the undersigned, within 10 days from the date of publication of this notice. Objection/s received thereafter will not be binding on my client.

SCHEDULE

All that piece and parcel of the residential property bearing Site No. 135, PID No. 68-5-135, measuring East to West 9.14 Metres (30 ft.) and North to South 12.19 Metres (40 ft.), in all ad-measuring 111.48 Sq. Metres (1200 Sq.ft.) with a building thereon, situated at Koramangala, Jakkasandra Block, Bangalore and bounded on:

East by : Site No. 136
West by : Site No. 134
North by : Road
South by : Site No. 147

Sd/- S.F. Goutam Chand
Advocate
Goutam Associates
No.60, 2nd Floor, Kanakapura Road,
Basavanagudi, Bangalore – 560 004

FOR PAPER PUBLICATION

I undersigned counsel of my client Sri Nagaraj .A. S/o Late Appajji Gowda, Residing at Aanehosahalli Village, Mallige Mettilu Post, Maralavadi Hobli, Kanakapura Taluk, Ramanagara District hereby publishing public / personal notice to the concerned following persons that, 1. Smt. S.J. Hemalatha, W/o Late K.M. Sudarshan, 2. Kumari. Pragathi .K.S., D/o Late. K.M. Sudarshan, 3. Sri K.S. Amarnath, S/o Late K.M. Sudarshan, All are residing at No.225, T-2, Surya Residency, 6th Main, 4th Block, Jayanagar, Bengaluru - 560 011 all of you along with K.M. Sudharshan executed registered agreement of sale dated 16/4/2022 being a owners, with intention to sell the land bearing Sy.No.68, measuring 2 acres 19 guntas, and Sy.No.175, measuring 1 acre 20 guntas in total 3 acres 39 guntas of Solur Village, Kundana Hobli, Devenahalli Taluk, Bangalore Rural District to our client for a sum of Rs.3,16,80,000/- out of that 32,90,000/- advance amount received and agreed to execute the registered sale deed, whenever our client is ready with balance consideration amount. When that is the fact our client several times approached all of you and on 06/06/2023 issued the legal notice calling upon all of you to come and execute the registered sale deed, but all of you well managed and send back the registered letter with the shara that, no such person in that address. Therefore, on behalf of our client hereby calling upon all the above three of you come and execute the registered sale deed in favour of our client as per agreement of sale dated 16/4/2022 as our client is ready with balance sale consideration amount with in the 8 days from the date of publication of this notice.

NAGAVENI .G.T, Advocate
Off: No. 19/22, 2nd Floor, Bytappa Building, Near Silk Exchange, Cubbonpet Main Road, Bangalore - 560 002.

PUBLIC NOTICE

The General Public hereby notified that my client **Mr. Gona Ravindra Rao** Son of Mr. Chandra Rao, R/at No.401, Sai Priya Neela, 13th Cross, Niladri Nagar, Electronic City, Bangalore-560 100is the absolute owner and is in peaceful possession and enjoyment of the property mentioned below in the Schedule and he has lost/misplaced the Original Sale Deed dated 02-04-2004, registered on 04-04-2004, registered as document No.ANK-1-00117/2004-05, Stored in CD No.ANKD4, registered in the office of the Sub-registrar, Anekal and Original GPA dated 16-08-2007 executed by **Mr. Mohammed Saleem** in favour of **Mr. N. Gangadharam** pertaining to the Schedule Property. In this connection, an E-Complaint has also been lodged on 20-06-2023 vide Lost Report No.0609151/2023. I hereby call upon the General public if anyone is in custody or possession of the same or otherwise found the above said document, kindly handover to undersigned immediately/within **7 days** and they may be suitable awarded, and also I further bring into the notice of the general public that in case anyone dealing with the Schedule Property on the basis of the above said original document, it shall not be binding on my client and the same will be an offence and they are liable to punish under the Criminal and Civil Law.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of immovable property bearing Site bearing **No.42,** property Assessment Nos.95/1, 95/2, Katha No.423, New Katha No.1068, situated at **Maragondanahalli Village, Jigani Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore Urban District,** presently comes under Hulimangala Village Panchayath Limits, measuring East to West: 40-00 feet, North to South: 30-00 feet, totally measuring **1200 Square feet,** and bounded as follows:-:

East by : Site No. 29, West by : Road; North by : Private Property; South by : Site No.41;

MANJUNATH RAO
Advocate
No.146/A, 3rd Main,
3rd Stage, Judges Colony,
Basaveshwarnagar, Bangalore-560 079.
Mob : 8884958813

Security guard attacked near ex-CM's residence

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The RT Nagar police are on a massive manhunt for an unidentified man who attacked a 54-year-old security guard near former Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai's residence in MLA Layout in the early hours of Tuesday.

Albert Salamen was sitting on the chair and keeping a watch when he noticed a man standing behind him suspiciously. Albert questioned him as to why he was moving around in the middle of the night and asked him to go home. Before he could react, the accused pulled out a knife and slashed his cheek, kicked him, and hurled abuses at him, threatening to kill him, the police said.

Albert backed out sensing danger and raised alarm. By the time residents came out of their houses, the accused managed to escape. The incident was captured on CCTV camera. Albert was taken to hospital for treatment. Based on the complaint, the RT Nagar police have registered a case under attempt to murder and criminal intimidation.

225 patients undergo free angioplasty at Jayadeva institute

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

As many as 225 patients, all from weaker sections of society, got a new lease of life thanks to angioplasty workshops conducted by Sri Jayadeva Institute of Cardiovascular Sciences and Research in Bengaluru and its branches in Mysuru and Kalaburagi.

The procedures were conducted in collaboration with Govindraju Subramani Heart foundation and Medtronic Vascular Division, Santarosa, U.S. The angioplasties were conducted over a period of seven days from June 12.

According to institute director C.N. Manjunath, performing 225 angioplasties in a span of seven days is technically demanding. It was possible because the institute has 17 cath labs, 120 full-time cardiologists, and adequate number of technical and nursing staff, he said.

Of the 225 patients, 25% were below 50 years and 22% were women.

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PUBLIC AUCTION

PUBLIC NOTICE

The general public is hereby informed that my client is intended to purchase the below mention property from its owner **Mr. VAKKALA GADDA VENKATARAMANA NAIDU @ V.K.NAIDU** s/o sri V.Krishnaiah Naidu, aged about 54yrs, R/o 7-95/5, vinayaka nagar, Tannapalli road, Tirupati, Vadantha puram, chittoor ,Andhra pradesh , 517507.
If anybody having any objection, claim, interest, dispute, for the above intended sale transaction, he/she/they may contact the undersigned with the documentary proof sustaining their objection /claim / dispute within seven (7) days from this day of publication, failing which my client will proceed with the sale transaction with the above owner as if their is no objection /claim/ dispute on the schedule property, and thereafter no claims / disputes /objections shall not be entertained

Schedule property

Residential Vacant **Site no : 21 , Property no 10, khata no 920** situated at Naganathpura Village, Begur Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Bangalore, now presently comes Under BBMP Limits measuring East to West 30 feet and North to South 52 feet, totally measuring 1560 sq ft. comes under BBMP ward no 191 having property ID:920/10/21. Balaji layout 1st main, Nagnathpura, Hosa road, Bangalore

Sd/-
Mr Khaja Samiullah haruni
Ph +91 8123801142
samiharuni@gmail.com
Through
JSR Associates ,Hsr layout, Bangalore
Dated 21-06-2023

PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Fasalu Rahman Pandarappetty S/o Aboobacker Pandarappetty R/o 121, Samhitha Royal Splendor, Chandrika Layout, Basavanapura, Kr Puram, B'lore 560049 have changed my name to Fasalu Rahman .

I, NIMRA Fazal Ahmed, R/at No.28, 6th Cross, 34th Main, J P Nagar, 1st Phase, T M C S Layout, Bangalore-560078 have changed my name from Nimra Fazal Ahmed to Nimra Faraaz vide affidavit dated 19-06-2023 before Notary Gangaraju B.N, Bangalore.

LEGAL NOTICE

IN THE COURT OF THE IV ADDL. CITY CIVIL JUDGE MAYOHALL UNIT AT BANGALORE (CCH-21) O.S. NO. 25201/2023

Between
ICICI Bank Limited, Having its Registered office at Landmark, Race Course Circle, Vadodara - 390 007 and having its Corporate office at ICICI Bank Towers, Bandra Kurla Complex, Bandra (East), Mumbai-400 051 and its branch office at Mystree Centre, 4/10, Hosur Road, Bommanahalli, Bangalore - 560 068 Represented by its POA Holder Sri. Pramodh Gurumallappa ...Plaintiff
And
Mr. Syed Aleem
...Defendant

SUMMONS TO DEFENDANT

To,
Mr. Syed Aleem,
S/o. Mr. Syed Mujahid,
Aged about 31 years,
No.10, 1st Floor, Shampura Main Road, Coffee Board Colony, Near Lolotha School, Bangalore - 560 043

WHEREAS the Plaintiff has instituted above said suit against you for recovery of **Rs. 3,44,797/- (Rupees Three Lakh Forty Four Thousand Seven Hundred Ninety Seven Only)** together with interest @ 24% p.a., cost of the suit and to grant such other or further order relief. The above mentioned Defendant hereby summoned to appear before the Hon'ble Additional City Civil & Sessions Judge (CCH - 21) in person or through a Counsel who can able to answer the claim made against you on **10/07/2023** at 11:00 a.m. failing which the suit is heard and disposed ex-parte.
Given under my hand and the seal of the Hon'ble Court on this 17/04/2023

BY ORDER OF THE HON'BLE COURT DEPUTY REGISTRAR, CITY CIVIL COURT, MAYOHALL UNIT, BANGALORE

ADVOCATE FOR PLAINTIFF
SA Associates,
No.10, 7th Cross,
Victoria Layout,
Bangalore- 560 047

SITUATION VACANT

MARKETING

WANTED
Sales Managers
Experience in Medical Equipment and consumables sales. Willing to travel extensively. Independent and Capable of managing sales team and highly target oriented
Area Sales Manager
Experience in Medical Equipment and consumables sales. Willing to travel extensively. Independent , target Oriented.
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capable of Learning. Self Motivated, willing to travel.
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Min 2 years experience
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TECHNICAL

SHIP HYDRAULIC Repairs Company @ Chennai Requires 1) Mech Degree / Dip / ITI – Freshers 2) Service Engineers / Technicians / Fitters – with Field Experience. Apply: info@torquetechnics.com Ct: 8870475948.

LEGAL NOTICE

IN THE COURT OF THE 73rd ADDL. CITY CIVIL JUDGE, MAYOHALL UNIT AT BANGALORE (CCH-74) O.S. NO. 25216/2023

Between
ICICI Bank Limited, Having its Registered office at Landmark, Race Course Circle, Vadodara- 390 007 and having its Corporate office at ICICI Bank Towers, Bandra Kurla Complex, Bandra (East), Mumbai-400 051 and its branch office at Mystree Centre, 4/10, Hosur Road, Bommanahalli, Bangalore- 560 068 Represented by its POA Holder Sri. Pramodh Gurumallappa ...Plaintiff
And
Vellore Rizwan Saad
...Defendant

SUMMONS TO DEFENDANT

To,
Sri. Vellore Rizwan Saad,
S/o. Sri. Vellore Noorullah Basha, Aged about 32 years,
No.101, 4th Cross, Vinobha Nagar, 2nd Main Road, KG Halli, Bangalore - 560 045

WHEREAS the Plaintiff has instituted above said suit against you for recovery of **Rs.4,67,566/- (Rupees Four Lakh Sixty Seven Thousand Five Hundred Sixty Six Only)** together with interest @ 24% p.a., cost of the suit and to grant such other or further order relief. The above mentioned Defendant hereby summoned to appear before the Hon'ble 73rd Additional City Civil & Sessions Judge (CCH- 74) in person or through a Counsel who can able to answer the claim made against you on **20-07-2023** at **11:00 a.m.** failing which the suit is heard and disposed ex-parte.
Given under my hand and seal of the Hon'ble Court on this **19th** day of **April, 2023.**

By Order of the Hon'ble Court Deputy Registrar, City Civil Court, Mayohall Unit, Bangalore

ADVOCATE FOR PLAINTIFF
SA Associates,
No.10, 7th Cross, Victoria Layout, Bangalore - 560 047

SITUATION VACANT

COMPUTERS – IT

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HOTELS

REQUIREMENT PREPARE and cook a variety of South Indian dishes, and cuisine, especially APPE/Appam. Develop innovative and enticing South Indian menus while maintaining traditional flavors. Ensure high-quality standards and consistency in food preparation, taste, and presentation. Job Location: Nagpur (MH) Rs.30,000 p/m 9960007244 /9518587125

MARKETING

A MULTINATIONAL Associate Company deals Construction Chemicals – Waterproofing Requires Business Development Executives Qualified (or) experienced candidates below 40 years, having good Communication to market / sell Company Products & Equipment. Preference will be given to candidates from respective locations. Salary– Best in Industry with annual statutory benefits & Monthly Target Incentives Location: All Major Cities in South & North India. Contact: 7397666739 / 7358376924 / hr@conrepair.co.in

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PERSONAL

ANNOUNCEMENTS

I, SATHISH R, S/o Shri Ramaswami N, R/a No. 192, "Surabhi", 17th B Cross, 8th Main, Malleswaram, Bangalore-560055 have rectified my DOB from 11.09.1975 to 11.11.1975 as per Birth Certificate issued by Kumbakonam Municipality, Government of Tamil Nadu vide affidavit dt. 10.06.2023 sworn before Notary B.S.Padma Prasad, City Civil Court Complex, Gandhinagar, Bangalore-560009

CHANGE OF NAME

I, ARUN Kumar C.R, R/at No.1-85, Shabari Nilaya, Konke, Nada, Udupi Kundapura, Karnataka-576230 now in Bangalore, have changed my name from Arun Kumar C.R to Arun, vide affidavit dated 19-06-2023 before Notary Gangaraju B.N. Bangalore.

I, ABHISHEK SAMPAT PAWAR S/O SAMPAT PARASHRAM PAWAR, R/o. Belgaum Hukkeri, Belagavi, Karnataka–590001 Have changed my Religion from HINDUISM to ISLAM wef.27/01/2021 also changed my name to AABID SHAIKH.

I Shwetha Rao D/o Radhakrishna Rao Yarmal Ramaupadhya, W/o Srikanth H R residing at A3-222, DS Max Springfield, Anagalapura, Doddagubbi, Bengaluru, Karnataka - 560077, have changed the name of minor Son Shriansh Rao aged 1 years and he shall hereafter be known as Shreyansh Rao for all purposes in future

BANARAS LOCOMOTIVE WORKS, VARANASI-221004

Bid No. IREPS-AT/E-21/2023-24 **E-TENDERS** Date: 12.06.2023

E-tenders are invited for & on behalf of the president of India, E-tender for supply of following items. Only e-offer will be acceptable for which vendors must have class III Digital Signature and registration on IREPS. The details of tenders are in the following sequence **S. No., Tender No. (Due Date) Description and Quantity. 1.** 08230102, Advertise Tender, (07.07.2023) 02 Item S S Pipe Fittings (P.L No.29070041 and 29230378) QTY- 116 Sets. And 172 Sets, **2.** 08231089, Advertise Tender, (10.07.2023) Oil Cooler Radiator for Convertor (P.L No.29470031) QTY- 572 Nos., **3.** 08231047, (DEV.) Advertise Tender, (14.07.2023) Damper for WAP-7 (P.L No. 29040140) QTY- 20 Sets, **4.** 08231046, (DEV) Advertise Tender, (14.07.2023) F. S. ALL STEEL LOCK NUT (P.L No.29310088) QTY- 60 Sets, **5.** 08231049,(DEV) Advertise Tender, (18.07.2023) UIC SOCKET(P.L No.29610280) QTY- 60 Nos., **6.** 08231044, Advertise Tender, (19.07.2023) Elastic Ring (P.L.No.29100010) Qty. 1968 Nos., **7.** 08231074, Advertise Tender, (21.07.2023) Damper for WAG-9 (P.L NO.29040012) QTY- 127 Sets, **8.** 08222568A, Advertise Tender, (24.07.2023) Clutch Dowlling (P.L No. 17240074) QTY- 940 Nos., **9.** 08231035A, Advertise Tender, (27.07.2023) 02 Item UIC Socket (P.L No.29610280 and 29612354) QTY- 975 Nos. and 276 Nos., **10.** 08231050, (DEV.)..Advertise Tender, (04.08.2023) Damper for WAG-9(P.L No.29040012) QTY- 40 Sets, **11.** 08231053, (DEV.)..Advertise Tender, (09.08.2023) SS Pipe fitting (P.L No.29070041) QTY- 50 Sets, **12.** 08231051, (DEV) Advertise Tender, (11.08.2023) Brass Pipe Fittings (P.L No.29230147) QTY- 50 Sets, **13.** 08231054, (DEV)..Advertise Tender, (14.08.2023) SS Pipe Fittings (P.L No.29230378) QTY- 50 Sets, **14.** 08231052, (DEV)..Advertise Tender, (16.08.2023) Brass Pipe Fittings (P.L No.29230354) QTY 50 Sets, **15.** 05231108A (27.06.2023), MILD STEEL CHEQUERED PLATES 5X1250X5000 MM, PL NO. 90421012, 20 MT, **16.** 05231118 (30.06.2023), ALLUMINIUM SHEET 2440X1220X1.6 MM, PL NO. 91010550, 500 SQM, **17.** 05235004A (30.06.2023), LIGHT LOAD RUN TEST FACILITY, 01 NOS, **18.** Tender No.07231039, Due Date 24.07.2023, PL No. 29720564, Short Description Sikaflex 221(Gray), Qty. 748 Ltr, **19.** Tender No.07230189, Due Date12.07.2023, PL No. 29670123, Short Description Decal Kit For WAP-7, Qty. 82 Sets, **20.** 04231009B, (23.08.2023), Fibre Glass Insulation Kit, Part No. 29721167, 285 Set., **21.** 10221158A, (31.07.2023), Developmental Tender for Governor for 4500 HP Part No. 16340036, 03 Nos., **22.** 03231372 (04.07.2023), Gasket, PL NO- 17270960, 1279 Nos. and PL NO- 17270212, 334 Nos. **CORRIGENDUM: 23.** Bid No: E-14, Tender No: 10223552B Bushing Part No. 16150260, Revision: 1, Details of Corrigendum: The tender quantity and opening date has been revised and now the same will be opened on 30.06.2023 instead of 16.06.2023 for quantity 94 Nos instead of 53 Nos, **24.** Tender No.: 07231025, Due Date: 16.06.2023, Revised Due Date: 01.07.2023, PL No.: 29725148, Short Description: Sealing Adhesive, Loctite, Qty.: 514 Sets, **25.** Bid Inv.No. E-15, Tender No. 08231106, Existing Description & PL. No.: (i) LOCK BOLT KIT FOR PLATE ASM (P.L No.17660403), (ii) LOCK BOLT KIT FOR LINK MACH (P.L.No. 17660415), Revised Description & PL. No.: (i) LOCK BOLT SET FOR PLATE ASM (P.L No.17660403), (ii) LOCK BOLT SET FOR LINK MACH (P.L. No. 17660415) Existing Due date: 19.06.2023, Revised Due Date: 26.06.2023, **26.** Bid Inv.No. E-15, Tender No. 08231107, Existing Description & PL. No.: BOLT KIT FOR CORBODY ROD (P.L.No.17660427), Revised Description & PL. No.: LOCK BOLT SET FOR CARBODY ROD (P.L. No. 17660427), Existing Due date:19.06.2023, Revised Due Date:23.06.2023, **27.** Bid Inv.No. E-15, Tender No. 08222596, Existing Description & PL. No.: LOCK BOLT KIT FOR CENTER PIVOT(P.L.No 17660439), Revised Description & PL. No.: LOCK BOLT SET FOR CENTRE PIVOT (P.L.No. 17660439, Existing Due date: 19.06.2023, Revised Due Date: 23.06.2023. **Note-** All other terms and conditions of the tender will remain unchanged. The details of above tenders are available on **www.blw.indianrailways.gov.in** and **www.ireps.gov.in.**

P.R./BLW/S-25 **Principal Chief Material Manager**

/blwvaranasi "वेबसाईट:-blw.indianrailways.gov.in"

Meet musicians from Bengaluru making melodies on World Music Day

From the classical strains of Carnatic to the infectious beats of rock, there is something for every musical taste in Bengaluru

Bengaluru seamlessly blends traditional musical roots with modern genres, creating a captivating fusion of sounds. From the classical strains of Carnatic and Hindustani music to the infectious beats of rock, jazz, and electronic genres, there is something for every musical taste. The city boasts a thriving live music culture, with numerous venues, cafes, and clubs hosting talented musicians, bands and independent artists. Bengaluru's music scene serves as a melting pot, nurturing emerging talent and providing a platform for artistic expression, making it a haven for both aspiring and seasoned musicians. We look at a few musicians doing something special this World Music Day:

SD Aravinda

Kannada film director and composer-singer, SD Arvinda has composed a song, 'Haadu Beke Beku', to celebrate World Music Day.

The song, a poem written by Basavaraj Okkunda, is composed by Arvinda who has also sung it and made it into a music video, which will be released today on his YouTube channel, Goals & Dreamz, as part of World Music Day celebrations.

"I believe we do not need one specific day to celebrate music as it is blended in nature and has a positive impact on the listener. We listen to songs when we workout, walk, drive. A dedicated day for music only makes it more special. I have always launched a song or music video for festivals and pre-programmed our national anthem with children for Children's Day. This song is my small contribution to celebrate World Music Day."

Okkunda is Arvinda's professor from his college days, whom he met after many years. "I was looking to compose something unique and my professor's poem appealed to me which led to our collaboration and the release of the song."

-- **Shilpa Anandraj**

Sruthi VJ

"I wanted to bring out the gravity of loss felt by the survivors," says Sruthi Vijayachandran (Sruthi VJ) whose single, *Snatched Away,* drops on June 21. The heart-wrenching song which begins with a voice clip of Sandy Phillips, herself a survivor and the co-founder of Survivors Empowered, a support group for people who have lost loved ones in mass shootings "is a heartrending pop ballad about the anguish of a parent who has lost their child to a tragic school shooting."

The idea for the song began in June of last year, soon after the mass shootout at Robb Elementary School in Uvalde, Texas on May 24. "There have been many such incidents, of course, but this one really shook me," says Sruthi, who shuttles between Bengaluru and California. "The fact that it took close to an hour and a half for law enforcement to confront the shooter was so frustrating. The song was born out of that frustration." She began reading up and listening to the stories of people who had survived the loss of their loved ones in mass shootings, even reaching out to some survivors. "I wanted to bring out the survivors' perspective, the gravity of the loss they experience," says Sruthi, whose music is usually a blend of both Western and Indian influences, courtesy her own professional background and training.

> Art is a really powerful medium to create awareness about things that demand attention.
>
> **SRUTHI VJ**
> Singer

This one, however, is different, she says. "It is not for me as an artist but a way to create awareness about something on all our minds," she admits, adding, "Art is a really powerful medium to create awareness about things that demand attention."

-- **Preeti Zachariah**

From Mug to Mike

Sunil Koshy used to be among the scores of people with an IT job in Bengaluru but whose passion lay elsewhere. He had to choose between songs and software – love and livelihood. Juggling both worked for a bit. But the more he was into music, the more it allured him. Around him, he saw more people, untrained in music but always eager to sing. This unrecognised tribe of bathroom singers, he realised, did not have a proper platform. So, in 2013, Sunil quit his job. With his wife, Archana, he started From Mug to Mike, wherein amateur singers can hone their hobby.

Over the last 10 years, Sunil and his wife have trained over 10,000 people to sing better. "We have had doctors, managers, professors, homemakers, and students joining us. People now recognise From Mug to Mike," he says.

Sunil also collaborated with some big names in Indian playback singing, including KS Chitra, Hariharan, Kumar Sanu, and P Srinivas. "One of our participants sang a duet with Kumar Sanu," he says, "We have tried to be a bridge between the music industry and the general public."

For World Music Day, Sunil has composed and sung an anthem, 'Sur Mein Rangeen Hui', with seven From Mug To Mike participants, including software professionals, a bank manager and a dentist. The song will be on From Mug to Mike's YouTube channel.

Sunil and his wife often produce an anthem for a few special days in the calendar such as Women's Day, Disability Day and Music Day, wherein they involve participants who have never sung in a studio before. In this regard, Sunil and Archana's decade-old venture has lived up to its name. For, people literally go from holding mugs to microphones.

-- **Praveen Sudevan**

> We have tried to be a bridge between the music industry and the general public.
>
> **SUNIL KOSHY**
> founder, From Mug to Mike

Thermal And A Quarter and MoonArra

Perhaps one of the city's best-known bands, Thermal and a Quarter has certainly stood the test of time. Founded by guitarist and singer-songwriter Bruce Lee Mani along with drummer Rajeev Rajagopal in 1996, the band is all set to release their ninth album.

"World Music Day is very, very special for Thermal and a Quarter (TAAQ). Early on in our career, we would look forward to performing at all free events organised on this day to promote budding musicians and live music. The audiences at World Music Day events are also genuine live music lovers and it was great building a reputation amongst these audiences. It's a great occasion for all musicians," says Rajeev Rajagopal, drummer and co-founder of TAAQ.

The band's USP is also their muse – their music centres around the city of Bengaluru. Their love for the city has seen them play at varied venues, irrespective of its size, says Bruce Lee.

"Music is the single most powerful, most unifying mode of communication in the world today. It brings people from all walks of life and geographical locations together with its message of peace, goodwill and communal harmony which is vital in the arts today," says Jagdeesh MR, guitarist and co-founder of MoonArra.

MoonArra melds jazz, Indian classical music and world musical in their work, marking their own place in the city's music scene from 2006. Jazz, classical music and world music being an accquired tastes, MoonArra's offerings will appeal to certain palates only.

Currently, the band is on their 10th international concert tour, performing in Sweden, Germany, Austria, Italy and Hungary.

-- **Ruth Dhanaraj**

Universal relaxant Artistes across genres believe in the healing power of music. (Right)Thermal and a Quarter (inset) MoonArra SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

CITYBEATS

Symphony on canvas

ON TILL JULY 3, 10AM TO 6PM
This art exhibition titled 'The Kingdom Of Tigers,' is described as a solo symphony in nature's realm and features the works of Anup Kumar Chand. The paintings capture the world of tigers, and reflect the artist's deep connection with it. Ashok says his works radiate the power, grace and inherent beauty of tigers, transporting you to their realm through his intricate brushstrokes and vibrant colours.
On at Gallery G, The Atrium, Lavelle Road.

Storytime

JUNE 23, 7PM
Atta Galatta presents "Love Stories From Indian Heritage," which is a story telling session for adults by Vikram Sridhar.
From folklore and mythology to tales hidden in oral literature, the performance will be peppered with "emotions garnished with prose and poetry," says Vikram. The event is open to those aged 16 years and above.
Tickets, ₹250, available on BookMyShow.
At Atta Galatta Indiranagar.

Make your own pots

JUNE 25, 10AM TO 11AM
There will be a pottery workshop for adults and children. The aim of the workshop is to connect with each other and to forge a connect with the earth, play with clay and be open to ideation and creativity through the art of pottery. It will also enable hand-building techniques such as pinching, coiling and slab making.
Tickets on Townscript and the venue is Lahe Lahe, Indiranagar. Call 9886294444.

Of maps and museums

JUNE 25, 11AM ONWARDS
If you have a passion to engage with museum exhibits, then this one is for you. MAP's Education team will conduct a 'Drop In Session – make a map' where you can look closely at a chosen museum exhibit to unleash your creativity and explore their collections.
This session is open to participants of all ages, who are willing to experiment with new material. The event is free of charge.
At MAP Bengaluru, HDFC Ltd Learning Centre

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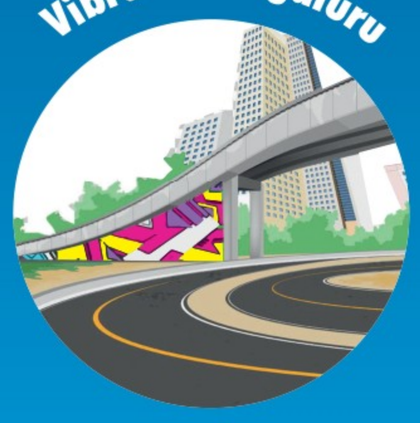

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1533

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As enshrined in our Constitution it is the fundamental duty of every Citizen of the Country **'to safeguard public property and abjure violence'.**

Administrator | Chief Commissioner

Issued by:
Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike
N.R. Square, Bengaluru-560002

A BG-BGE

Text&Context

THE HINDU

NEWS IN NUMBERS

Expected rate of glacier melting in the Hindu Kush region

80 In percentage. If emissions are not drastically reduced, the largest volume of ice outside the polar regions, the Hindu Kush Himalayan region, is projected to lose four fifths of its ice by 2100. PTI

The rise in foreign tourist arrivals to India during January-April

166 in percentage. The number of tourists who arrived in India this year has seen a massive rise when compared to the year-ago period, according to Union Tourism Minister G. Kishan Reddy. PTI

The worth of the Rural Development Fund withheld by the Centre

3,622 in ₹ crore. The Punjab Assembly condemned the Centre over RDF dues. Due to the non-release of funds, rural works in Punjab are being adversely affected. PTI

Companies issued with notices over cough syrup row

71 pharmaceutical firms. The Union Health Minister issued the show-cause notices after concerns were raised about the reported deaths caused by contaminated Indian made cough syrups. PTI

New members added to the retirement fund body EPFO in April

8.47 lakh members. Among the 17.20 lakh members added in April, more than half of the new members are in the age group of 18-25 years. PTI

COMPILED BY THE HINDU DATA TEAM

The climate lawsuit against Delta airlines

Why was the 'world's first carbon-neutral airline' slapped with a lawsuit? What do the terms carbon offsetting, greenwashing and additionality mean with respect to climate claims? How do airlines select carbon offsetting options? Why do claims of climate consciousness of airlines ring hollow?

EXPLAINER

Saumya Kalia

The story so far:

Delta Air Lines in 2020 marketed itself as the "world's first carbon-neutral airline", investing $1 billion on reducing fuel usage and carbon removal techniques. However, the veracity of these claims is now under scrutiny. On May 30, California-based Mayanna Berrin filed a lawsuit against Delta arguing that the airlines' assertions were bogus, misleading and false.

What does the lawsuit say?

The lawsuit accuses Delta of misleading customers with its sustainability pledges. Delta's in-flight napkins read – "Carbon neutral since March 2020. Travel confidently knowing that we will offset the carbon emitted on your Delta flight."

Delta relied on "carbon offsetting", shorthand for a slew of ways companies can reduce or remove carbon emissions from the environment. Activities like planting trees, shifting to cleaner fuel and funding carbon capture techniques in theory balance out a company's carbon emissions. A single round trip from Mumbai to L.A. generates 4.8 tonnes of CO_2, but the claim is that the carbon pollution from this trip can be absorbed by trees or carbon vacuums that Delta had supported. All the customer has to do is pay extra to participate in "green flying". Delta's carbon offset portfolio consists of "half renewables, mostly wind and solar projects in India," as per a *Bloomberg* investigation. According to Delta's latest ESG report, it was responsible for roughly 43.2 million metric tonnes of CO_2 emissions in 2022 – almost seven times Botswana's CO_2 emissions from fossil fuels and industry in 2021. The lawsuit against Delta is based on reports that have found glaring loopholes in the carbon offsetting process. Criticism includes, "inaccurate accounting" of projects where reductions would have occurred regardless of carbon market involvement; failure to immediately offset emissions; relying on impermanent solutions such as building projects (like forests) that may be destroyed by natural hazards. A 2022 *Bloomberg* investigation found the reductions from the Los Cocos II wind farm project in the Dominican Republic which Delta Air Lines paid for would have happened regardless of Delta's involvement. The airlines has however, denied all allegations.

Green flight: A Delta Airlines jet comes in for landing in New York City, U.S. on January 11. REUTERS

Have such cases happened before?

A Dutch court in April this year heard a "greenwashing" case against the Netherlands-based airline KLM. Rights group Fossil Fuel alleged that KLM's advertisements suggest flying with the airline is not directly hazardous to the environment, which violates Europe's consumer laws by misleading customers about sustainability initiatives. "The only manner to fly sustainably is to not fly or to fly less... Anything that KLM says differently...misleads consumers", Fossil Fuel's lawyer said. Misleading carbon-neutral claims in flying aren't rare – Ryanair urged customers to fly "Europe's Lowest Fares, Lowest Emissions Airline" which was found to be misleading by a U.K. body in 2019. A 2021 *Guardian* investigation found that the carbon offset systems of most airlines are "flawed". A June 2022 Greenpeace report found that seven of the biggest European airlines – including KLM and Lufthansa – were committing "quite offensive" levels of greenwashing. Another study which examined 37 airlines' claims on carbon offsets found that 44% of these airlines mislead customers and profited from "green" assertions.

What are the reasons for the controversy?

The offset market has been criticised for appealing to climate consciousness without real effort or impact. One line of scrutiny is about the efficacy of offsets in general – growing evidence shows reforestation as a climate adaptation programme is ineffective and misleading. They failed to sequester the carbon in the first place, or the gains made were quickly reversed or inflated, a 2019 *ProPublica* investigation of Brazil's rainforests showed.

Another concern hints at the moral problem of greenwashing, where big polluters continue to use fossil fuels and opt for a cheaper route to cutting emissions by way of offsets, all while middle- and low-income nations struggle with climate realities. Experts also argue it lulls people into thinking they are contributing to the environment. One 2015 working paper found that global CO_2 emissions would have been 600 million tonnes lower if countries had cut pollution at the source instead of buying offsets.

Offset programs work only when they remove or reduce carbon emissions that wouldn't have been eliminated otherwise, what is called "additionality". Paying to conserve rainforests that no one was planning to cut, doesn't amount to offsetting carbon emissions. Proving additionality is a structural challenge, for it is hard to track the genuine progress of activities on the ground. A 2021 paper analysed the "world's largest carbon offset program", the Clean Development Mechanism, and found "at least 52% of approved carbon offsets were allocated to projects that would very likely have been built anyway", amounting to "a substantial misallocation of resources".

What comes next?

Airlines should focus on decarbonising commercial aviation, with the help of sustainable aviation fuel (SAF), hydrogen, and full-electric propulsion techniques. But these avenues are predicted to face obstacles as air traffic continues to grow and innovative decarbonising technologies are far in the distance.

THE GIST

- Delta Air Lines in 2020 marketed itself as the "world's first carbon-neutral airline", investing $1 billion on reducing fuel usage and carbon removal techniques. However, the veracity of these claims is now under scrutiny.
- Delta relied on "carbon offsetting", shorthand for a slew of ways companies can reduce or remove carbon emissions from the environment. Activities like planting trees, shifting to cleaner fuel and funding carbon capture techniques in theory balances out a company's carbon emissions.
- Offset programs work only when they remove or reduce carbon emissions that wouldn't have been eliminated otherwise, what is called "additionality". Paying to conserve rainforests that no one was planning to cut, doesn't amount to offsetting carbon emissions.

What is the contention between Coal India and CCI?

Why did the Competition Commission of India impose a penalty of ₹591 crore on the PSU?

Saptaparno Ghosh

The story so far:

On June 15, the Supreme Court held that there was "no merit" in Coal India Ltd (CIL), a public sector undertaking, being excluded from the purview of the Competition Act. The Court was hearing the PSU's appeal against the Competition Appellate Tribunal's order which alleged the former of abusing its position.

What was the case about?

The chain of events goes back to March 2017 when the Competition Commission of India (CCI) had imposed a penalty of ₹591.01 crore on CIL for "imposing unfair/discriminatory conditions in fuel supply agreements (FSAs) with the power producers for supply of non-coking coal." In other words, CIL was found to be supplying lower quality of the essential resource at higher prices and placing opaque conditions in the contract about supply parameters and quality. The regulator contended that Coal India and its subsidiaries operated independently of market forces and enjoyed market dominance in the relevant market with respect to production and supply of non-coking coal in India.

What did the PSU argue in court?

Coal India argued that it operated with the principles of 'common good' and ensuring equitable distribution of the essential natural resource. With this objective, it was secured as a 'monopoly' under the Nationalisation Act, 1973 (more specifically, the Coal Mines (Nationalisation) Act, 1973).

The entity said that it may have to adhere to a differential pricing mechanism to encourage captive coal production (referring to mines that are handed over to companies for specific and exclusive use through lease or any other route). Differential pricing, which may be inconsistent with market principles, was to ensure the viability of the larger operating ecosystem as well as for pursuing welfare objectives. Furthermore, coal supply also has a bearing on larger national policies, for example, if the government were to encourage growth in backward areas through increased allocation.

The PSU stated that it did not operate in the commercial sphere. It specifically pointed to 345 out of its 462 mines having suffered cumulative losses totalling ₹9,878 crore in 2012-13.

How did the CCI respond?

The respondents broadened the scope of the arguments. The Raghavan Committee (2020) report, put up for perusal by the respondents, had observed that state monopolies were not conducive to the best interests of the nation. They could not be allowed to operate in a state of inefficiency and should instead, operate amid competition. Furthermore, coal ceased to be an 'essential commodity' in February 2007 and the Nationalisation Act too was removed from the Ninth Schedule (laws that cannot be challenged in court) in 2017. It was also pointed out that Coal India was a fully-government owned entity until the disinvestment in 2010. The government's shareholding reduced to 67% with the rest held by private hands. Moreover, it was stated that the CIL directed 80% of its supplies to power companies. The latter would then pass power generated using coal to discoms (distribution companies), who, in turn, would supply power to the final consumer. The continual supply of coal, adherence to the contract, reasonableness in the rates and quality of coal also serve a common good, the respondents contended. Coal constitutes about 60 to 70% of the costs for power generation companies. Thus, irregular prices and supply will have a significant bearing indirectly on consumers.

What were the SC's observations?

The court said there was "no merit" in the argument that the Competition Act would not apply to CIL because they are governed by the Nationalisation Act, and it cannot be reconciled with the Competition Act. "The novel idea which permeates the Act, would stand frustrated, in fact, if the state monopolies, the government companies and public sector units are left free to contravene the (competition) act," it stated. Separately, it said that entities cannot act with caprice, treat unfairly otherwise or similarly situated entities with discrimination.

According to Anshuman Sakle, partner at law-firm Khaitan & Co, the judgment reinforced the principle of "competitive neutrality" – entailing that the Competition Act equally applies to public and private sector enterprises.

THE GIST

- On June 15, the Supreme Court held that there was "no merit" in Coal India Ltd (CIL), a public sector undertaking, being excluded from the purview of the Competition Act.
- CIL was found to be supplying lower quality of the essential resource at higher prices and placing opaque conditions in the contract about supply parameters and quality. The CCI had therefore imposed a penalty of ₹591.01 crore on CIL.
- Coal India argued that it operated with the principles of 'common good' and ensuring equitable distribution of the essential natural resource. The respondents pointed out that Coal India was a fully-government owned entity until its disinvestment in 2010.

Eight held for stealing bikes

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Cottonpet police arrested a gang of eight persons and recovered 22 two-wheelers and an auto worth ₹20 lakh from them.

Based on a four-vehicle theft case, the police tracked down the accused. The accused would move around residential areas and identify parked vehicles and steal them by breaking the locks in the night. They would later sell the bikes to their contacts.

Timings
BENGALURU

WEDNESDAY, JUN. 21		
RISE	05:55	SET 18:48
RISE	08:23	SET 21:35
THURSDAY, JUN. 22		
RISE	05:55	SET 18:48
RISE	09:15	SET 22:15
FRIDAY, JUN. 23		
RISE	05:55	SET 18:48
RISE	10:03	SET 22:54

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	32	26
Mysuru	33	21
Bengaluru	28	22

Bengaluru Today
32°C Morning will be pleasant. Day will be slight warm and humid. Chances of moderate rain and thundershower. Night also will be pleasant.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
30°C The weather will be slight warm and humid. Night will be comfortable.Spell of light rain or thundershower will occur.

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THE HINDU
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Yoga, cognitive behavioural therapy can tackle Internet addiction: NIMHANS study

The study aimed at exploring clinical utility of yoga therapy in management of Internet addiction

Afshan Yasmeen
BENGALURU

A mass yoga session in Bengaluru on June 21 last year. FILE PHOTO

A pilot study by researchers from NIMHANS has found that the integration of yoga and cognitive behavioural therapy (Y-CBT) is feasible and useful in reducing Internet addiction and psychological distress. June 21 is observed as International Yoga Day.

Aimed at exploring the clinical utility of yoga therapy in the management of Internet addiction, researchers from the Service for Healthy Use of Technology (SHUT) Clinic and the Department of Integrative Medicine at NIMHANS studied the impact of integrated Y-CBT in adolescents with severe Internet addiction from July to December, 2022.

"We found that it was feasible and useful to combine yoga with CBT in managing excessive Internet use. We took up four cases with severe Internet addiction including a 21-year medical student, who had an online betting addiction and put them on Y-CBT intervention. All of them reported a significant reduction in psychological distress and improvement in quality of sleep within two weeks of the intervention," said Manoj Kumar Sharma, Professor at the Department of Clinical Psychology, who also heads SHUT Clinic.

The feasibility was tested by implementing ten sessions of yoga and six sessions of CBT programme for two weeks by a certified yoga therapist and psychologist, respectively. This was followed by online booster sessions once a week, and post-assessments were conducted at 12 weeks.

"The subjects adhered to treatment and at the end of 12 weeks reported sustained improvement without deterioration at any point in time. Although this is not a controlled study, it is premature to conclude on limited evidence but considering the potency shown in all the cases, integrating yoga and CBT can be a new dimension for future control trials in the area of excessive internet use," Dr. Sharma told *The Hindu*.

Hemant Bhargav, Assistant Professor of Yoga at the Department of Integrative Medicine at NIMHANS, said Internet addiction is a behavioural problem that is managed by pharmacological and non-pharmacological methods.

"The non-pharmacological methods focus on enhancing skills for healthy use of technology and promoting mindfulness and mental relaxation. Yoga therapy is an effective tool to reduce psychological stress and promote self-regulation and mindfulness," he said.

Asserting that yoga became another mechanism to tackle stress for those taken up under the study, Dr. Bhargav explained, "When they get into this Internet addiction mode, the speed of their thought process becomes immensely high. They lose control and awareness of everything and become restless. Because of this, they could not do slow yoga."

Customised protocol

He said a customised yoga protocol that included 'kapalbhati and bhastrika' pranayama was introduced for them. "It reduced their speed of thought process and they became aware of their body and mind serving as another way of coping with stress," he said.

"A trend was observed for increased compliance towards treatment at follow-up. Future studies should explore this further with a robust methodology. We have already begun a randomised control trial," the doctor said.

Funded by Science and Technology of Yoga and Meditation (SATYAM) under the Department of Science and Technology, the study has been accepted for publication in an international peer-reviewed journal.

Raichur teacher enters India Book of Records for film on Vidyagama

Shreyas H.S.
BENGALURU

A 38-year-old teacher from a remote village in Raichur district of Karnataka has entered the India Book of Records (IBR) for directing a short film on Vidyagama, a government programme that was launched during COVID-19. Under this programme, the State government took schools to the doorsteps of children for nearly two months.

In this programme, government teachers, under Vatara Shale (tenement schooling) scheme, held classes in shrines, community halls, homes and other available open spaces in rural areas of Karnataka. Vidyagama was launched in August 2020, but was abruptly halted in October 2020 fearing spread of COVID-19.

The film on Vidyagama was made by Shankar Devaru Hiremath, who works in Duggamma Gunda primary school at Devi Cluster Camp in Sindhanur taluk, which is about 418 km from Bengaluru.

The 19-minute film depicts the challenges faced by teachers in remote villages of Raichur district to bring children, who drifted away from education, back to the academic fold, and how children, who had taken up work for daily wages, were convinced to quit their jobs.

Mr. Hiremath was among a group of teachers who toiled day and night to assemble around 30 children in Duggamma Gunda village. Participants holding placards visited every house spreading awareness about the significance of learning and dispelling the fear of COVID-19.

The efforts paid off with children from nearby villages also attending the tenement school. Although Vidyagama was stopped officially, teachers continued their work as parents and children showed interest.

Former Education Minister S. Suresh Kumar, who launched Vidyagama programme, told *The Hindu* that the achievement of Mr. Hiremath is a proud moment for Karnataka and government teachers.

Nandan Nilekani donates ₹315 cr. to alma mater IIT-Bombay

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Nandan Nilekani

Nandan Nilekani, co-founder and chairman of Infosys and founding chairman of UIDAI, has donated ₹315 crore to his alma mater, Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Bombay. With this, his total contribution to IIT-Bombay has gone up to ₹400 crore. The donation would go towards building infrastructure, stimulating research in emerging areas of engineering and technology, and nurturing a deep tech start-up ecosystem at IIT-Bombay.

The contribution is also expected to serve as the anchor for IIT-Bombay's ambitious vision to become a global leader among engineering and technology institutes.

Mr. Nilekani signed a memorandum of understanding with Subhasis Chaudhuri, director, IIT-Bombay, in Bengaluru on Tuesday. "IIT-Bombay has been a cornerstone in my life, shaping my formative years, and laying the foundation for my journey. This donation is more than just a financial contribution. It is a tribute to the place that has given me so much, and a commitment to the students who will shape our world tomorrow," said Mr. Nilekani.

Mr. Nilekani joined IIT-Bombay in 1973 for a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering. Incidentally, the donation marks 50 years of his association with the institute.

THE HINDU GROUP

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PULSE-CHECK

Anxiety disorders and its treatment: the stigma remains

Anxiety disorders are among the most frequently occurring mental health problems in the community today. They often go unrecognised in primary care settings due tolack of awareness and available human resources.

Alok Kulkarni

Anxiety, as an emotion, is experienced by many in day-to-day life. In some, it can become persistent and disabling.

Fear is an emotional response to perceived imminent threat or danger associated with urges to flee or fight. This 'fight-or-flight response' is characterised by a startled response and physiological changes. In contrast, anxiety is the apprehensive anticipation of future danger or misfortune accompanied by a feeling of worry, distress, and/or bodily symptoms of tension.

From an evolutionary perspective, fear and anxiety seem to be adaptive responses. For a psychiatrist, it is vital to differentiate normal functional anxiety from pathological dysfunctional anxiety on clinical grounds, and as of today, there are no candidate biomarkers to make this distinction.

This is where clinical judgement becomes key. Factors such as duration and persistence of symptoms, frequency or intensity, disproportionality of symptoms in a given context, pervasiveness of symptoms across contexts, and socio-occupational impairment are considered to mark the line between normal and pathological anxiety.

REPRESENTATIVE IMAGE

Historical context

Anxiety, as a symptom, is found across a range of neuropsychiatric disorders. Until the last part of the 19th century, anxiety disorders were not classified separately from other mood disorders, such as depression.

In 1895, Sigmund Freud first suggested that people with mainly anxiety symptoms should be differentiated from depression. He gave the name "anxiety neurosis" to this entity.

Freud's original anxiety neurosis included people with phobias and panic attacks. He subsequently divided them into two groups - anxiety neurosis and anxiety hysteria.

The first group included people with mainly psychological symptoms of anxiety, while the second group had people with phobias and physical symptoms of anxiety.

Prevalence and onset of anxiety

India's National Mental Health Survey (NMHS) of 2015-2016 found the prevalence of neurosis and stress-related disorders to be 3.5%. These disorders were twice as common in women as compared to men. This is significant, as they are first encountered in primary care settings, and are usually missed or misdiagnosed. This can have a tremendous public health impact.

There is evidence that the developmental period of childhood, adolescence, and early adulthood are periods of high risk for the onset of anxiety disorders.

In the 1960s, the different responses of certain phobias to behavioural methods suggested a grouping into simple phobias, social phobia and agoraphobia. These groups were found to differ in their age of onset.

Simple phobias (fear of objects, animals or situations, for example, fear of dark places) generally begin in childhood, social phobia in adolescence, and agoraphobia in early adulthood.

Clinical features of anxiety

Generalised anxiety disorder (GAD) is characterised by excessive worrying (which lasts more than six months) and is not restricted to particular circumstances – for example, only when attending a social event.

Worries often centre on possible physical ill-health affecting the person or his/her family members. The worries are widespread and not focused on a specific issue. Common features include apprehension, tension, difficulty concentrating, and autonomic symptoms such as dry mouth or abdominal discomfort.

GAD is commonly seen in primary care settings, but is often not recognised, as only some people present with its characteristic psychological symptoms.

Panic disorder is characterised by recurrent unexpected surges of severe anxiety (also known as panic attacks), which typically peak within 10 minutes and last around 30-45 minutes. They are characterised by a sudden onset of palpitations, choking sensation, chest pain, dizziness, depersonalisation (patients feel that they have changed and feel divorced from their own self), derealisation (patients feel that the world has become unreal, distorted or falsified), and fear of dying or losing control. Patients may believe they are in imminent danger of death or collapse, and seek urgent medical attention.

In panic attacks, the anxiety builds up quickly, symptoms are severe, and the patient fears a catastrophic outcome. Panic disorder can occur with or without agoraphobia – anxiety in feared situations from which escape might prove difficult or embarrassing – and agoraphobia can either precede or follow a panic attack.

Social anxiety disorder is characterised by the intense, persistent fear of being scrutinised or evaluated negatively by others. Patients anticipate ridicule or humiliation, and avoid many social situations or endure them with great distress. The situations in which social phobia occurs include restaurants, canteens, dinner parties, seminars, board meetings, and other places where the person feels observed by other people.

Shyness is a core symptom of social phobia, though this should be distinguished from healthy individuals who are merely shy, experience little anxiety, and function well at home and at work. Many people have been known to use alcohol or other drugs to quell anxiety symptoms prior to a social encounter.

Separation anxiety disorder is characterised by fear or anxiety concerning separation from those to whom an individual is attached. Common features include excessive distress when experiencing or anticipating separation from home, and persistent excessive worries about potential harms to attachment figures or untoward events that might result in separation.

Worrying that something bad may happen to loved ones is also seen in GAD, but this worry is just one of a wide range of worrisome themes. In separation anxiety disorder, the central concern is of losing a major attachment figure.

Specific (simple) phobia is characterised by the fear of particular objects, animals or situations. Common specific phobias include fears of animals, blood, injection, flying, heights, lifts, enclosed spaces, dental treatment, and choking.

Treating anxiety

Some people with anxiety receive unnecessary or inappropriate treatment, as mild symptoms of recent onset, and if associated with stressful events, will improve spontaneously once the stressor resolves.

The need for treatment is determined by ascertaining the severity and persistence of symptoms, their impact on everyday life, the co-occurrence of depressive symptoms, and previous response to medication or psychotherapy. The choice of treatment is influenced by clinical characteristics, patient and doctor preferences, and the local availability of potential interventions.

There is much overlap across anxiety disorders for evidence-based effective therapies, such as the prescription of a selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor (SSRI) or a course of cognitive behavioural therapy (CBT), but there are differences in treatment response between disorders.

Around one-third of people with anxiety disorders also fulfil the diagnostic criteria for a depressive episode. Treatment of depression will usually relieve anxiety symptoms when depression is the primary diagnosis, but if depression co-occurs or follows an anxiety disorder, each condition requires separate consideration and specific treatment. After the remission of symptoms, the treatment is usually continued for 9-12 months, and is slowly phased out once the recommended course has been completed.

Conclusion

Anxiety disorders are among the most frequently occurring mental health problems in the community today. They often go unrecognised in primary care settings due to stigma, lack of awareness, and lack of locally available human resources.

If left untreated, they can be associated with significant morbidity. This has a huge public health impact and also affects an individual's productivity and quality of life. It is vital to increase public awareness of anxiety disorders and the fact that they are treatable with effective interventions.

(Dr. Alok Kulkarni is a senior geriatric psychiatrist and neurophysician at the Manas Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences, Hubli)

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Know your English

K. Subrahmanian

"Sir, a lot of readers would like to know the difference between 'unqualified' and 'disqualified'."

"When you don't have the necessary qualification for something, you are said to be unqualified for it.

I am not qualified for the job.

When you are disqualified, you are rendered unfit. In sports, for example, you are disqualified when you violate some rule. You are told that you are not eligible to participate. When you are caught copying in a public examination, you will be disqualified from writing the examinations further. When you don't have the necessary qualification, you consider yourself unqualified. Even though you may be qualified, you are disqualified when you do something wrong."

"Sir, Mrs. Maya, Flat 8/2, 11th Avenue, Ashoknagar, Madras, wants to know the difference between 'agree' and 'promise'."

"When you agree with another, you have the same opinion that the other has with regard to a particular thing. When you agree to do something, you say you will do it. When you promise to do something, you say that you will definitely do it. 'Promise' is a stronger word."

"Sir, Mr. V. Chellasamy, Peraiyur, Kamuthi, wants to know whether the following is correct: 'His conduct and character is good'."

"This is correct as 'conduct' and 'character' represent the same notion and hence are considered a single entity. This is called notional concord.

Bacon and eggs is the traditional English breakfast."

"Sir, Mr. S. Appu, 14/1, CPWD Qtrs, Besant Nagar, Madras, wants to know whether 'used he to smoke?' is acceptable."

"Once it was used widely in British and American English."

"Sir, Mr. Khaleelullah Byabani, 419/4, Shantinagar, Gunatakal wants to know the pronunciation of 'Czechoslovakia'."

" 'Czech' is pronounced like the word 'check'; the 'o' is pronounced like the 'o' in 'go', 'slow'; 'slo' is pronounced like the word 'slow'; 'vsk' rhymes with 'back'; 'v' is pronounced like the 'v' in 'van'; 'ia' is pronounced like the word 'ear'. So, it is 'Checkoslowvakia'. This is the way it is pronounced in English."

Published in The Hindu on May 24, 1988

THE DAILY QUIZ

Please send in your answers to dailyquiz@thehindu.co.in

The International Day of Yoga has been celebrated across the world on June 21 since 2015, following its inception in the UN General Assembly in 2014. Here is a quiz on yoga

Sindhu Nagaraj

QUESTION 1
Why was June 21 selected as the date to celebrate Yoga Day?

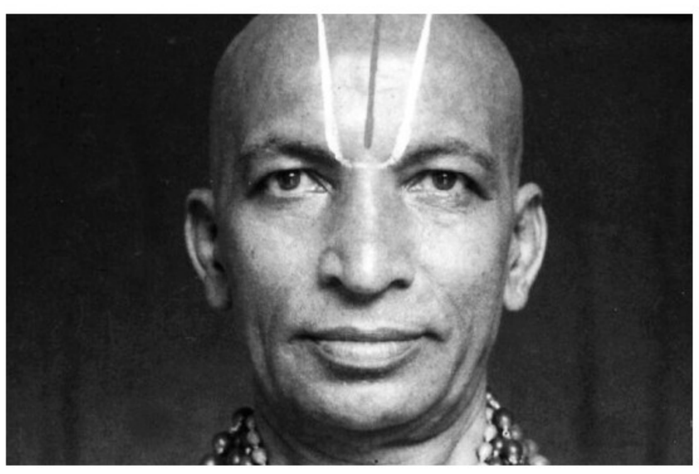
QUESTION 2
Yoga-like practices are said to be first mentioned in which Indian ancient text?

QUESTION 3
What is the collection of 195 Sanskrit sutras (aphorisms) on the theory and practice of yoga called? Who is said to have compiled it?

QUESTION 4
This is a practice in yoga as an exercise incorporating a flow sequence of twelve linked asanas. It's dedicated to the Hindu solar deity. What is it called?

QUESTION 5
What is the practice of yoga that incorporates a set of breathing exercises called?

QUESTION 6
It was founded by Nakamura Tempu and is known as Japanese Yoga. What is it also called?



Visual Question:
This yoga teacher is considered one of the most important gurus of modern yoga, and is often called the Father of Modern Yoga.

Questions and Answers to the previous day's daily quiz: 1. Name the sports in which Leander's parents don the India colours. **Ans: In basketball and hockey**
2. Leander joined this tennis programme when he was 12. **Ans: Britannia Amritraj Tennis Academy**
3. Leander reached No. 1 in the junior world rankings in this year. **Ans: 1990**
4. In 1996, Leander won a medal at the Olympics by beating this person. **Ans: Fernando Meligeni**
5. Leander has these many doubles and mixed doubles Grand Slam titles. **Ans: Eight men's doubles and ten mixed doubles**
6. Leander and Mahesh Bhupati won three Slams together in this Majors. **Ans:1999 Wimbledon and the 1999 and 2001 French Open**
7. Leander played the lead role in this socio-political thriller. **Ans: *Rajdhani Express***
8. These civilian honours have been bestowed on the tennis icon. **Ans: Padma Shri and Padma Bhushan**
Early Birds: Himanshu Verma | Vishi Sinha | Mahima Rawat

Word of the day

Ephemeral:
anything short-lived

Synonyms:
Passing, transient, temporary, brief

Usage: *The ephemeral joys of childhood is beyond words.*

Pronunciation: bit.ly/ephemeralpro

International Phonetic Alphabet: /əˈfɛ.mə.rəl/

For feedback and suggestions for Text & Context, please write to **letters@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Text & Context'

From Page One

Monsoon showers hit city; rains likely for five days

"There is an air cyclonic circulation and due to this, there would be cloudy conditions and rains which is quite normal for this time of the year," said Mr. Prasad.

According to IMD observation data recorded at 5.30 p.m. on Tuesday, Bengaluru city received 18.9 mm of rainfall, and the Bengaluru International Airport and the HAL Airport stations received 16.6 mm and 4.2 mm, respectively.

Mr. Prasad said that the cyclonic storm, Biparjoy which swept through Gujarat and parts of Rajasthan last week has nothing to do with the rains in the city. "These are monsoon showers," said Mr. Prasad.

The IMD forecast for Bengaluru for the next 48 hours is "Generally cloudy sky. Light to moderate rain/thunderstorms are very likely in some areas. Surface winds are likely to be strong at times. Maximum and minimum temperatures are very likely to be around 27 and 21 degree Celsius respectively."

Mr. Prasad said that the city is expected to witness light to moderate rainfall in the next five days. "Bengaluru is expected to receive light to moderate rainfall which is likely to occur in the evening or night. However on some days there could also be a dowpur in the morning hours due to the air cyclonic circulation," Mr. Prasad said.

Text & Context

A weekday feature on *The Hindu* epaper (epaper.thehindu.com) carries explainers, special articles and a quiz. In the latest issue (June 21, Wednesday), the following explainer is available:

- Why the 'world's first carbon-neutral airline' is facing a lawsuit **bit.ly/carbonneutralflight**

You can use your smartphone's inbuilt features to access this article. If it's an Android phone, use Google Lens to read and tap the url to access the article. If it's an iPhone, use Live Text on camera to do the same.

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Date: 19th June 2023

EXTENSION NOTICE

1. Reference advertisement No. A/2/2023 dated May 16, 2023. The last date for submission of applications for the Position of Assistant Professor in Political Science and Education has been **extended till July 10, 2023.**
2. Other terms and conditions will remain unchanged.

ISEC-23410 Registrar

THE HINDU
OPPORTUNITIES

GENERAL

Digital Business Head

Manipal Digital Network Limited is a wing of Manipal Media Network Ltd. (MMNL), Publisher of the leading media brands, the Kannada daily, Udayavani; the weekly family magazine, Taranga; the Kannada film magazine, Roopatara; the literary magazine, Tushara and the children's digest, Tunturu; Manipal Digital Network Limited operates various digital properties consisting of websites, e-paper, mobile apps and the e-magazines.
The organization is on an exponential growth phase and is looking for a competent **Digital Business Head** to fuel its organic/inorganic expansion plans. The role includes providing strategic leadership to overall Digital business.

Ideal Candidate Profile:
- Must have minimum of 8-10 years of experience.
- Preferably from Technology and Business Development background.
- Exposure to Media Business will be an added advantage but not essential.
- Proven experience in managerial or leadership position with strategic bent of mind.

If you are aspiring to lead, then this is an opportunity you shouldn't miss.
Please email your CV to:
hr.mmnl@manipalmedia.com with in 10 days.

GENERAL

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THE HINDU GROUP

Gold Winner PRESENTS

The search for the Master Chef of Karnataka
THE HINDU our State our Taste

CO PRESENTED BY RKG AGMARK GHEE
POWERED BY Butterfly 40
IN ASSOCIATION WITH AASHIRVAAD Parry's EVEREST

*Map not to scale.

Karnataka's most delicious contest is coming to your town. Cook a traditional Kannada dish, or give it a special twist and bring it to the venue.

If our jury loves it, you could be shortlisted for the grand live cooking finale in Bengaluru. Your culinary skills can make you the next **Master Chef of Karnataka.**

Get your dishes judged by Celebrity Chef duo
Oggarane Dabbi Murali & Suchitra Muralidhar

To participate:
Scan the QR code or register at **bit.ly/OSOT2023** (or) WhatsApp / Call / SMS your Name <space> City <space> Name of dish to:
96064 74973 / 96064 74974

1 LAKH* FIRST PRIZE
60,000* SECOND PRIZE
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T&C apply.

Gold Winner Mandatory to present one dish using Gold Winner cooking oil and bring the used wrapper/container to the contest venue.

Click a picture of your Butterfly appliance and show at the venue. Get additional points!

Regional winners from each city will get products from Butterfly 40

Bring wrapper/ containers of **RKG Ghee, AASHIRVAAD Atta, Parry's Sugar & Bambino** to the venue and get extra points.

Mandya
June 24, 2023 | 10:30 am onwards
Dr. HDC Auditorium, PES College of Engineering,
K V Shankaragowda Rd, PES College Campus,
Mandya - 571401.

Ramanagara
June 25, 2023 | 10:30 am onwards
Ambedkar Bhavana,
Dr.B.R. Ambedkar Bhavan, Near Old Bus stand, Court Road,
Ramanagara – 562159.

Presenting Partner Gold Winner | Co Presented by RKG | Powered by Butterfly 40 | In association with AASHIRVAAD Parry's EVEREST | Vermicelli Partner BAMBINO

Government of Karnataka
Department of Ayush

Sri Thaawar Chand Gehlot
Hon'ble Governor of Karnataka

"Yoga for Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam"

Sri Siddaramaiah
Hon'ble Chief Minister
Government of Karnataka

9th International YOGA Day Celebration Bengaluru-2023

YOGA FOR PEACE AND HARMONY
JUNE-21

: Inauguration by :
Sri Thaawar Chand Gehlot
Hon'ble Governor of Karnataka

: In the August presence of :
Sri Siddaramaiah
Hon'ble Chief Minister, Government of Karnataka

Hon'ble Ministers, MPs, MLAs & MLCs of Bengaluru

Sri Dinesh Gundurao, Hon'ble Minister for Health and Family Welfare participating in the World Blood Donors Day programme

"Har Aangan Yoga"

Date: 21-6-2023 Time : 6.30 am to 8.30 am
Venue : Grand steps Vidhana Soudha, Bengaluru.

All are Welcome

INBRIEF

All three Cong. candidates set to be declared elected unopposed

All the three candidates from the ruling Congress who filed their nominations on Tuesday for the byelections to three seats of Legislative Council are expected to be declared elected unopposed if their nominations are in order as none others filed their nominations.

Congress candidates Jagadish Shettar, Minister Bosreraju and Thippannappa Kamakanuru filed their nominations on Tuesday which was the last day for filing nominations. Their nominations would be scrutinised on Wednesday.

Cong. protests against Centre for denying rice to State; BJP holds counter-stir

KPCC chief says the people of the State would teach a fitting lesson to the BJP which is 'indulging in politics' at the expense of the poor

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The ruling Congress in Karnataka staged protests on Tuesday in all district headquarters against the Centre for "denying" selling rice for the State's Anna Bhagya scheme, which promises 10 kg rice to each member of families living below the poverty line and Antyodaya card holders.

Meanwhile, the BJP held a parallel protest in Bengaluru against what they called Congress' effort to "blame the Centre" for delay in implementation of the scheme. The two parties have been locked in a war of words ever since the Food Corporation of India (FCI) told the Congress-led State government that it cannot sell rice for the Anna Bhagya scheme, citing a change in policy.

At Freedom Park in Begnaluru, KPCC president and Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar, Transport Minister Ramalinga Reddy, KPCC working president Saleem Ahmed and others staged a protest against the Centre. Addressing protesters, Mr. Shivakumar said, "We are determined to make the State hunger-free. We have offered to give 10 kg of rice to each person of poor families through Anna Bhagya scheme. But the Union government has blocked this." He accused the Centre of being "anti-poor" and said it was creating obstacles in the implementation of the scheme to provide rice to the weaker sections.

Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar and other leaders staging a protest against the Union government at Freedom Park in Bengaluru on Tuesday. SUDHAKARA JAIN

The people of the State, he said, would teach "a fitting lesson" to the BJP which is "indulging in politics" at the expense of the poor, in the next Lok Sabha polls, he said. "We are not asking for rice free of cost. However, they are adamant that the policy has changed on selling rice to states."

BJP supporters protesting against the State government's rice scheme in Bengaluru on Tuesday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Bommai's challenge

Taking exception to the Congress blaming the Centre for not getting additional rice, former Chief Minsister Basavaraj Bommai challenged the Siddaramaiah-led government to provide 15 kg of rice instead of 10 kg if it really had commitment towards the welfare of poor.

He alleged that the State's development had been derailed within one-and-half months of the Congress coming to power. "While people in the State are reeling under the shock of drastic increase in power bills, industries are bound to close down unable to bear the burden of tariff hike. Already, there are reports of buses facing technical snags," he said.

CM headed to Delhi

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah is expected to meet Union Ministers in Delhi on Wednesday and request them to supply additional rice to Karnataka.

Govt. mulling over amendment to end registration without RERA permission

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Housing Minister Zameer Ahmed Khan has said that the government is considering a proposal to amend the law in order to prevent registration of sites without permission from Karnataka Real Estate Regulatory Authority (K-RERA) within the project jurisdiction, in a bid to prevent formation of unauthorised layouts.

The Minister, who reviewed the functioning of the K-RERA in Bengaluru on Tuesday, observed that the developers of new layouts were selling plots without obtaining the authority's permission. In some areas, layouts had been constructed on disputed lands, jeopardizing the buyers' interests. To avoid this, the law would be amended to prevent registration of plots without RERA permission, he said. This matter would be discussed with the Revenue Department, he added.

Strict action

He said strict action will be taken if the builder, developer, or promoter harasses buyers by not giving the plot/apartment within the stipulated time as per the agreement. In some cases, there have been allegations of demanding more than the contract amount and that will be taken seriously, he said. He also warned that serious action will be taken with respect to cases of cheating customers.

Action against 10 big companies

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Housing Minister Zameer Ahmed Khan became furious when the officials concerned informed him that as many as 10 reputed companies had dues to the tune of ₹340 crore to be paid to RERA in the form of penalty for not completing their projects on time.

The Minister wondered how the officials could remain silent for so many years without taking any action. He directed them to arrange for a meeting of the Deputy Commissioner of Bengaluru Urban and BBMP commissioner to initiate measures to prevent those companies from taking up new projects till they paid the penalty dues.

With 10 days left, Congress govt. strives to launch Anna Bhagya scheme

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

With just about 10 days left for the scheduled launch of the Anna Bhagya scheme of the Congress government, the search for the additional quantum of rice continued on Tuesday, raising questions on the scheme's timely launch.

Karnataka Food and Civil Supplies Minister K.H. Muniyappa will be leaving to Delhi to convince the Centre to release the required quantity of rice to the State. Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Tuesday said the State officials were still discussing with Andhra Pradesh for the supply of rice after Telangana had intimated its inability to supply. Officials were also in touch with West Bengal.

He also said that if the rice is purchased from Chhattisgarh, the price of rice including transportation costs, would be high compared to FCI price which would work out to be ₹36.60 per kg.

> The Central government has conveniently forgotten that the National Food Security Act was implemented by the then UPA government
>
> **SIDDARAMAIAH**
> Chief Minister

Meanwhile, sources in AAP unit in Karnataka said that though its government in Punjab has offered to provide the required quantum of rice, the State had not sent its proposal.

The CM said the State government had also called for quotations from NCCF, NAFED and Kendriya Bhandar. "Prime Minister Narendra Modi repeatedly speaks about cooperative federalism. Is this cooperative federalism? The centre has conveniently forgotten that the National Food Security Act was implemented by the then UPA government headed by Manmohan Singh." Karnataka needs 2.28 lakh metric tonnes of rice to launch the scheme from July 1, and is scouting for rice across the country after the FCI intimated its inability to provide the required quantum.

Rice millers say they can meet partial requirement of Anna Bhagya

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Karnataka government, which is scouting for rice for its Anna Bhagya scheme across the country, is yet to speak to Karnataka Rice Millers' Association to ascertain the cost or the quantum of rice available with the mills in the State.

Range of rice cost

The rice available with millers in Karnataka, it is learnt, is priced between ₹35 and ₹ 42 per kg, depending on the variety and the region.

According to association Vice President N.R. Srinivas, the government has not involved the local millers in the Anna Bhagya scheme while it is looking for rice availability elsewhere in the country that could become expensive due to high transport cost. "The cost of rice ranges from ₹35 per kg for the big paddy variety to ₹42 per kg for Sona Masuri. However, if rice is brought from other states, the cost will be around the same price or higher."

His statement assumes importance as the opposition BJP has been urging the Congress government to purchase rice from within the State while Chief Minister Siddaramaiah has said that the cost of rice was around ₹55 per kg in Karnataka and cannot be bought for Anna Bhagya supply. Karnataka is looking to purchase 2.28 lakh metric tonnes of rice monthly to provide additional 5 kg free rice to each person in the BPL card.

Across districts

Mr. Srinivas said that with about 2,000 rice mills located in all districts barring three (Vijayapura, Bagalkot and Hubballi -Dharwad), supply of rice from mills could be easier and also cost less on transport. He said that while Karnataka's paddy production was around 30 lakh metric tonnes annually, the installed capacity of millers in the state is much above the total paddy production of the State.

When asked if the millers here were in a position to supply the required quantity, he said, "We may not be able to supply full requirement currently, but at least we will be able to supply partial requirement. To be self-reliant to meet the Anna Bhagya requirement in future, the government has to plan well involving farmers and millers."

Meanwhile, the association has also asked the government to restart the custom milling rate (CMR), the agreed rate at which the millers mill the rice for government schemes, including Anna Bhagya scheme. It is learnt that the government is yet to pay arrears or around ₹20 crore to the millers.

IBC to invest ₹8,000 crore in Karnataka

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The leadership team of International Battery Company (IBC), an American firm, that is planning to invest ₹8,000 crore in setting up a proprietary Lithium Nickle Manganese Cobalt prismatic cell manufacturing plant in Karnataka on Monday met M.B. Patil, Minister for Large and Medium Industries.

The company has asked the government to provide 100 acres of land at Information Technology Investment Region (ITIR) in Devanahalli.

"The decision on providing land and extending incentives will be taken after discussing the same with Chief Minister Siddaramaiah," said the minister. IBC plans to set up a non-captive gigafactory and invest ₹8,000 crore for land, plant and machinery and building.

Plea says KSHRC is non-functional due to vacant key posts

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Petitioner holds that the government has not filled the posts despite representation given in March

The High Court of Karnataka on Tuesday ordered issue of notice to the State government on a PIL petition, which has complained that the Karnataka State Human Rights Commission (KSHRC) has become non-functional in the past three months due to failure of the government to fill up the body's three posts of chairman and two members.

A Division Bench comprising Chief Justice Prasanna B. Varale and Justice M.G.S. Kamal passed the order on the petition filed by Sudha Katwa, a city-based advocate.

It has been pointed out that one of the two posts of members became vacant on February 17, 2023, with completion of tenure of the member; and the second post became vacant on February 24. The post of chairman too became vacant on March 10, 2023 with the completion of term of then Chairman D.H. Waghela, who was former HC chief justice.

Pointing out that the government, as per the guidelines of the apex court, should have commenced the process of filling of these posts three months prior to their vacancy, the petitioner has complained that the government has not bothered to fill up these posts despite representation given by the petitioner in last week of March.

Trace source of fake news on social media and take action, Siddaramaiah tells officials

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Arguing that the menace of fake news on social media has crossed limits ever since the Congress came to power in the State, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Tuesday instructed the authorities concerned to trace the source of these fake news and take legal action.

The Chief Minister also asked the authorities concerned to identify people spreading fake news on social media and take legal action against them. He had an elaborate discussion in this regard with Home Minister G. Parameshwara who met him on Tuesday.

Previous regime

The Chief Minister recalled that the menace of fake news had increased even in 2013, when Congress had come to power. "The political opponents are adopting the same strategy this time too. As the Lok Sabha elections are approaching, attempts are being intensified to spread fake news and unrest is being created in the society," he claimed.

"Previously, political opponents tried to create unrest in society by spreading false news about child thieves, beef transporters, etc. In the recently held Assembly elections, people of the State have rejected the BJP and the Sangh Parivar in a clear and unequivocal manner. But now, there are clear indications that attempts would be made to create mob attacks and riots through fake news and rumors. Therefore, instructions are given to take necessary action in this regard," he said.

Fact-checking body

"Earlier, a technical team in Bangalore City Police Commissionerate and Police Headquarters had been entrusted with the responsibility of detecting fake news, fact-checking, warning and creating public awareness. However, the BJP government stopped fact-checking when it came to power. Fact-checking should be resumed. Cyber police should work round the clock to trace the sources of fake news," he said.

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU
TAMIL NADU CIVIL SUPPLIES CORPORATION
Head Office: 12, THAMBUSAMY ROAD, KILPAUK, CHENNAI - 600010
Ph. No. (044) 26426773 Email id.: tncsc.tn@nic.in CIN: U15137TN1972SGC006157

No.: BS6/020255/2023 **AMENDMENT SHORT E-TENDER NOTICE** Dated: 20.06.2023

Online electronic tender for the **"Purchase of 60,000 Metric Tonnes of "Tur dal (Split - Husked & Fatka) [Indigenous] / Tur Dal (Split Husked - Imported) / Lentil locally known as Canadian Yellow Lentil (Split - Husked & Laired No.2) / Lentil locally known as Canadian Yellow Lentil (Whole - Husked & Laired No.2) as per Agmark Specification" AS PUBLISHED in the The Daily Thanthi Tamilnadu & HINDU (All Editions) ON 20.03.2023**

READ AS

Online electronic tender for the **"Purchase of 40,000 Metric Tonnes of "Tur dal (Split - Husked & Fatka) [Indigenous] / Tur Dal (Split Husked - Imported) / Lentil locally known as Canadian Yellow Lentil (Split - Husked & Laired No.2) / Lentil locally known as Canadian Yellow Lentil (Whole - Husked & Laired No.2) as per Agmark Specification"**

Other terms and conditions remains unaltered

Sd/- S.Prabhakar
MANAGING DIRECTOR

DIPR/3166/Tender/2023

"சோதனை கடந்து சுதந்திரம் அடைந்தோம், சாதனை புரிந்து சரித்திரம் படைப்போம்."

THE MUNICIPAL COMMISSIONER
CITY MUNICIPAL COUNCIL, BIDAR

No: BMC/HS/CR-128/2022-23 Dated: 17-06-2023

TENDER NOTIFCATION

1) Name of work: Bioremediation of Legacy Waste of Bidar CMC Sy.No. 39/A and 39/C at Sultanpur village Bidar {DMA/2023-24/OW/WORK_INDENT221}, 2) Estimated cost: e-portal ನಲ್ಲಿ ನಮೂದಿಸಿದಂತೆ, 3) Eligibility of Agency / Consultant: e-portal ನಲ್ಲಿ ನಮೂದಿಸಿದಂತೆ, 4) EMD amount: e-portal ನಲ್ಲಿ ನಮೂದಿಸಿದಂತೆ, 5) Pre bid meeting date: 10-07-2023 at 11.00 AM, 6) Last date for submission of tender: 20-07-2023 upto 04.00 PM, 7) Technical bid opening 21-07-2023 at 04.30 PM, 8) Address for communication: Municipal Commissioner, City Municipal Council, Bidar, Pin code 585401, Email : itstaff_ulb_bidar@yahoo.com, 08482-240432, 9) Website: https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in

DIPR/Bidar/17/KSMC&A/2023-24

Sd/- Municipal Commissioner
City Municipal Council, Bidar

INBRIEF

Stampede-like situation at temple in Hyderabad

An unexpected surge of crowd of devotees and poorly-organised amenities at the Sri Yellamma Pochamma Devastanam at Balkampet in Hyderabad for the annual Kalyanotsavam triggered a stampede-like situation on Tuesday. Several places in the queue outside the overcrowded temple showed devotees suffocating and fainting. However, no casualties were reported.

TDP leader suspects misuse of SriVani Trust funds of TTD

Former Minister and TDP leader Bandaru Satyanarayana Murthy has expressed suspicion that funds are being misused in the name of SriVani (Sri Venkateswara Aalaya Nirmana) Trust of the TTD. Addressing a media conference here on Tuesday, he asked, "What is the need to set up a separate SriVani Trust, when the TTD already has an account?" The TDP leader said that no information has been released by the Trust on the amount collected by it during the last four years.

Sivasankar moves High Court for bail in LIFE Mission case

M. Sivasankar, former Principal Secretary to the Kerala Chief Minister, who was arrested by the Enforcement Directorate in the LIFE Mission corruption case, moved a bail plea before the Kerala High Court on Tuesday. Mr. Sivasankar has sought bail for undergoing medical treatment. The Special Court, considering the cases related to the Prevention of Money Laundering Act, had earlier rejected his bail plea. The investigation agency arrested him on February 14.

'Callous attitude of magistrates has led to increase in litigation'

High Court of Karnataka issues guidelines to magistrates for ordering FIR in non-cognisable offence complaints; warns of serious action if guidelines are not followed meticulously

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Observing that magistrates have not changed their attitude of passing callous orders of granting permission for investigation of non-cognisable offences without recording *prima facie* reason, the High Court of Karnataka has issued mandatory guidelines to magistrates by invoking its power of superintendence over courts of a judicial magistrate under the Code of Criminal Procedure (Cr.PC).

Justice M. Nagaprasanna passed the order while quashing the permission granted by the magistrate to the K.R. Puram police in the city to register a First Information Report (FIR) and investigate the complaint of threat to life lodged by Swapna Suresh, an accused in Kerala gold smuggling case, against one Vijesh Pillai of Kerala in March 2023.

The High Court noted that the magistrate had failed to record *prima facie* reason for granting permission under the Cr.PC to demonstrate the application of mind before passing the order on the request of the police to probe the complaint of criminal intimidation, which is non-cognisable offence, lodged by Swapna.

While allowing Vijesh's petition questioning the legality of permission granted for registration of the FIR, the High Court directed the magistrate to pass an order afresh on the request of the police with a proper application of mind as per the guidelines.

Despite directions issued by the High Court and the Supreme Court from time to time for many years for recording reasons, the magistrates have not changed their attitude towards passing callous orders of granting permission, which sometimes contain only one word or one line like, "permitted" or "perused permitted" or "permitted registration of FIR," the High Court pointed out while observing that "permitting registration of an FIR cannot be a frolicsome act on the part of the magistrate".

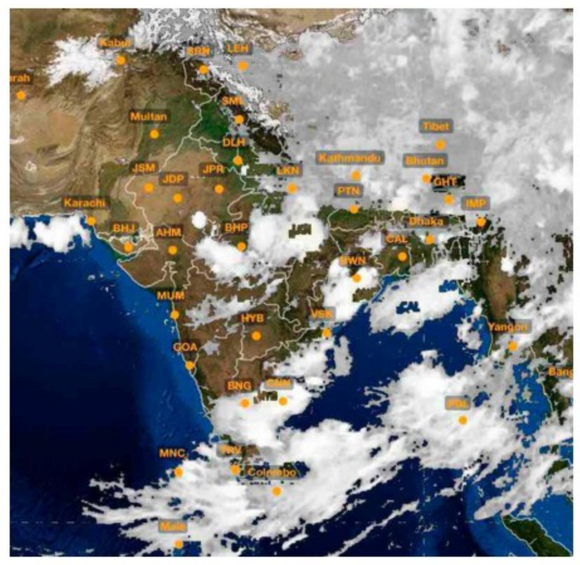
The magistrates by their callous action of passing such orders have generated huge litigation before the High Court as petitions are being filed seeking quashing of such orders which grant permission bearing no application of mind, Justice Nagaprasanna said while pointing out that by such callous orders, magistrates have contributed/contributing to the docket explosion in the High Court, adding to the huge pendency of cases.

"It is high time now the magistrates mended their ways and applied their mind to the requisitions for investigations received and then passed appropriate orders," the High Court observed while stating that it is exercising its power of superintendence under Section 483 of the Cr.PC as the magistrates have failed to pass reasoned orders despite several directions from the court.

Meanwhile, the High Court clarified that there was nothing in the Cr.PC to indicate that the informant or the complaint alone should seek permission from the magistrate to commence the investigation into a non-cognisable offence. It is open to either the complainant or the police officer to approach the magistrate seeking permission to investigate non-cognisable offences, the High Court said while rejecting contention made in the petition that police could not have sought permission from the magistrate to investigate the complainant.

WEATHERWATCH

Rainfall, temperature & air quality in select metros yesterday



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 19.00 HRS)

Forecast for Wednesday: Heavy/very heavy rainfall likely at isolated places over Assam, Meghalaya, Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram, Sikkim, Sub-Himalayan West Bengal, Bihar, Jharkhand, Odisha and coastal Andhra Pradesh. Heat wave conditions likely in isolated pockets of Vidarbha and Chhattisgarh

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	4	32.6	24.4	Kozhikode	—	33.5	26.4
Ahmedabad	—	36.7	27.2	Kurnool	—	39.9	28.7
Aizawl	35	32.1	18.4	Lucknow	—	37.1	29.5
Allahabad	—	43.3	31.2	Madurai	—	36.8	26.5
Bengaluru	1.7	24.8	22.2	Mangaluru	0.2	30.0	25.0
Bhopal	—	—	27.0	Mumbai	—	34.0	28.4
Bhubaneswar	—	38.0	28.1	Mysuru	—	32.0	22.4
Chandigarh	3.8	38.6	26.8	New Delhi	4	38.1	27.0
Chennai	57	32.1	24.5	Patna	—	40.5	26.8
Coimbatore	—	33.3	24.8	Port Blair	—	31.3	26.6
Dehradun	17	36.8	24.4	Puducherry	6.5	31.2	25.3
Gangtok	13	19.8	17.6	Pune	—	35.8	23.1
Goa	0.5	34.0	26.3	Raipur	—	43.0	29.6
Guwahati	1	29.1	24.6	Ranchi	1	37.8	24.4
Hubballi	—	32.0	23.0	Shillong	20	23.6	17.2
Hyderabad	—	38.8	28.9	Shimla	6	25.3	17.4
Imphal	4	27.5	20.3	Srinagar	—	31.7	16.9
Jaipur	21.6	34.0	26.4	Thiruvananthapuram	—	32.2	24.9
Kochi	4	30.4	25.6	Tiruchi	—	36.1	27.0
Kohima	6	20.8	15.9	Vijayawada	—	38.8	30.6
Kolkata	4	36.0	28.4	Visakhapatnam	0.5	34.8	27.9

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO_2	NO_2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	.22	.38	.28	63	101	
Bengaluru	7	.71	.60	42	68	
Chennai	4	113	.78	51	47	
Delhi	.16	.86	.71	111	145	
Hyderabad	.27	.68	.61	117	146	
Kolkata	3	.31	.18	39	51	
Lucknow	.12	.28	.43	102	112	
Mumbai	.27	.23	108	78	74	
Pune	124	195	113	81	73	
Visakhapatnam	.14	.60	.30	90	119	

Yesterday

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Banswara, Rajasthan recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 307 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Naharlagun, Arunachal Pradesh recorded a healthy AQI score of 14

Air Quality Code: Poor Moderate Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO_2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO_2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

Police register case against former SFI leader

The Hindu Bureau
ALAPPUZHA

The Kayamkulam police on Tuesday registered a case against former Students' Federation of India (SFI) leader Nikhil Thomas who secured M.Com admission at Milad E-Sherif Memorial (MSM) College, Kayamkulam, by allegedly submitting a fake degree certificate.

Mr. Thomas was booked for cheating and forgery. Kayamkulam Dy.SP Ajay Nath said the case was registered based on a complaint filed by the college principal. Mr. Nath said a two-member police team had been dispatched to Raipur to examine the authenticity of the B.Com certificate issued by Kalinga University that Mr. Thomas furnished to obtain admission to the PG course at MSM College.

Meanwhile, MSM College manager P.A. Hilal Babu told mediapersons that Mr. Thomas was admitted to the college based on the recommendation of a Communist Party of India (Marxist) leader. He, however, did not disclose the name of the political leader.

Kerala High Court stops annuity payments in AI camera deal

The Hindu Bureau
KOCHI

The payment of any annuity for the installation and operation of the artificial intelligence camera units on roads in the State as part of the Safe Kerala project has been stopped by the Kerala High Court.

A Division Bench of the court headed by Chief Justice S.V.N. Bhatti and Justice Basant Balaji also instructed the State authorities that no payments shall be made without informing the court or obtaining the prior approval of the court.

The court issued notices to the respondents in the case on Tuesday before admitting the petitions moved by Leader of the Opposition V.D. Satheesan and senior Congress leader Ramesh Chennithala.

Notices will be issued to the Kerala government, Transport Department, and Keltron, among others.

The Bench noted that the public interest litigation filed by the petitioners had to be examined from the "perspective of change in the dynamics of implementation of the project, whether the change was objective, *bona fide* or vitiated by any of the collateral reasons" as alleged in the petition.

The court said it would also look into the question of whether the exchequer had to directly or indirectly make more payments than envisaged at the beginning of the project as the mode of implementation was changed.

The court will consider the case after three weeks.

Water theme path

Skimming through: Vehicles crossing a waterlogged road in Vijayawada following a heavy downpour on Tuesday. K.V.S. GIRI

SIT probe sought into alleged custodial violence

The Hindu Bureau
KRISHNAGIRI/CHENNAI

Members of Kuravar families, picked up at Puliandapatty in Krishnagiri district recently and allegedly subjected to custodial violence by the Chittoor police in Andhra Pradesh, had also faced sexual violence during their illegal detention, a fact-finding team of the CPI (M) and the Tamil Nadu Kuravar Pazhangudi Sangam alleged on Tuesday.

The police, who had come looking for one Ayyappan in a theft case, also picked up his family, including his seven-year-old son, wife and 70-year-old mother. The fact-finding team demanded an SIT probe into what it called the "abduction" and custodial violence against members of the Kuravar community. It sought ₹25 lakh in compensation per victim under the SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act; a probe monitored by the DGP and the Home Secretary; the arrest of the Andhra Pradesh police personnel in question; and an inquiry into the "collusion" between the local police and the A.P. police.

CPI(M) leader Dilli Babu and Sangam State secretary A.V. Shanmugam said the victims were picked up by the Chittoor police on June 11 and 12 and held in a warehouse in Bengaluru and then in isolation behind the police station in Chittoor.

According to the fact-finding team, on June 7, the police picked up Renuka, the estranged wife of Ayyappan, and her brother. On June 12, Ayyappan's sister Sathya lodged an online complaint with the Tamil Nadu police about the "abduction" of her relatives by plainclothesmen.

According to the victims, the same night, other plainclothesmen arrived and picked up Sathya and her family for filing the complaint. "The complaint that was lodged with the Tamil Nadu police was passed on to the A.P. police. There was collusion between the police," Mr. Babu alleged. The CPI(M) intervened on June 14. " If the police came looking for an accused, only the accused should have been picked up, not their family, too," Mr. Babu said.

The Kuravar Sangam contacted the Chittoor SP and DSP and visited the station. Sathya was released but was asked to withdraw her complaint as a condition for setting the others free, alleged Mr. Babu. After Sathya relented, the victims were released on June 16.

Kerala govt. to promote e-autos, bicycles at tourist destinations

Dhinesh Kallungal
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

Kerala is planning to promote sustainable and green travel initiatives in the popular and emerging tourist destinations adjacent to backwaters, beaches, and rivers in the State.

As part of the initiatives, a certain percentage of tourists visiting the Responsible Tourism (RT) Mission packages at some destinations will be encouraged to travel green by offering e-auto and bicycle safaris. The project will be implemented by RT Mission with the cooperation of local self-government bodies.

Foreign tourists during a green travel at Kadalundi in Kozhikode.

Speaking to *The Hindu*, Rupesh Kumar, State Coordinator of the RT Mission, said, the mission had already begun steps to pilot this in some of the places.

For instance, e-auto was distributed to selected beneficiaries in Kadalundi in Kozhikode, while cycling at Kumarakom and more such destinations would be covered under the project. Tourists would be encouraged to plant a sapling at the destination in memory of their visit or at the place where they stayed.

'Democratic forces must unite to end BJP rule'

The Hindu Bureau
TIRUVARUR

The unity and success of the secular democratic forces in Tamil Nadu should be replicated at the national level to dislodge the BJP from power, Chief Minister M.K. Stalin said here on Tuesday.

"We stand at a critical juncture and have a duty to protect India's democracy. If we fail to do it, Tamil Nadu, with a history of 3,000-4,000 years, will be wiped off," he said at the opening of Kalaignar Kottam, a memorial to his father and former Chief Minister M. Karunanidhi. "Allowing the BJP to continue in power will be detrimental to the future of Tamil Nadu, Tamils and India," he said.

Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin speaking at the inaugural of Kalaignar Kottam in Tiruvarur on Tuesday. R. VENGADESH

To prevent the BJP from returning to power, the secular democratic forces should come together as they did in Tamil Nadu. The same kind of unified action and coordination should be replicated at the national level. "We need to win, and before that, we need unity."

Bihar had taken the lead in protecting democracy in the country, Mr. Stalin said, pointing to the upcoming meeting of the secular democratic forces convened by Chief Minister Nitish Kumar in Patna on June 23. "Kalaignar termed democracy a lamp that lights a house and authoritarianism a wild fire. We have a responsibility to douse the wild fire spread in 10 years of BJP rule. I will attend the meeting carrying your hopes. The lamp of democracy will be lit in Patna. Let us gear up for the Lok Sabha election, which will determine the future of India," he said.

Mr. Stalin described his father as a tall national political leader, who had good relations with Prime Ministers and Presidents. He was responsible for major political changes and the change of governments in the country.

A welcome step

The U.S. and China must continue to keep diplomatic channels open

The United States and China this week took a much-needed step towards repairing their relations as Antony Blinken visited Beijing, the first visit by a U.S. Secretary of State since 2018. The main takeaway from the visit, during which he met with Chinese President Xi Jinping, was their agreeing on the need for stability in ties. Mr. Xi told Mr. Blinken that the international community was "concerned" about the current state of relations and "does not want to see conflict or confrontation". Mr. Blinken said following the talks that "both agree on the need to stabilise our relationship". Differences, no doubt, remain, and the visit expectedly did not yield breakthroughs on contentious issues such as U.S. export curbs or Taiwan. But the very fact that Mr. Xi met with the visiting U.S. diplomat was a clear sign of progress given the cancellation of Mr. Blinken's visit in February and the rancour that followed the shooting down of the Chinese "spy balloon" over the U.S. As Mr. Blinken put it, the objective was to "strengthen high-level challenges of communication, to make clear our positions and intentions in areas of disagreement" and to explore areas where both "might work together .... on shared transnational challenges". Asked in Beijing how the Biden administration will continue with its attempt to fix relations with China as the domestic discourse likely worsens in the lead up to the 2024 elections, he argued that continued engagement was the best avenue to protect U.S. interests, including on trade.

The challenge now is whether they can sustain this effort at arresting the slide and keep diplomatic channels open, even when the next crisis inevitably emerges and against the backdrop of increasingly heated domestic political rhetoric. As Mr. Xi told Mr. Blinken, countries do not want to "choose sides". This is especially true in the region, where nations continue to have deep economic linkages with China and close security ties with the U.S. That Beijing and Washington are appearing to agree on the need for stability should be welcomed, including by India. While shared concerns about China may be a binding factor, the India-U.S. relationship today has acquired a deeper and broader scope, which will be affirmed this week during Prime Minister Narendra Modi's state visit, in new agreements expected in the defence domain and in technology cooperation. In the not-too-distant past, high-level visits from Washington to Beijing may have evoked some unease in New Delhi, particularly during the short-lived "G2" phase during the Obama administration, but that is no longer the case.

Embedded hate

American culture's over-reliance on police to maintain order is problematic

A report on the findings of a sweeping, two-year investigation by the U.S. Department of Justice (DoJ) into violence and racial discrimination of the police in Minneapolis – where George Floyd, an unarmed African-American was murdered in May 2020 in police custody – found that officers had used excessive force, including "unjustified deadly force", and violated the rights of people engaged in constitutionally protected speech, particularly discriminating against African-American and Native American people and those with "behavioural health disabilities". The findings appeared to confirm a raft of citizen complaints about police conduct in Minneapolis in the wake of the Floyd murder, for which crime the officers involved were sentenced to prison terms. The report's salience is underscored by the outpouring of public anger and protests against racism and violent acts by police on minorities, which erupted across major cities, calling for police reforms. The inquiry not only found numerous examples of excessive force, unlawful discrimination, and First Amendment violations upon review of 19 police shooting incidents but it also noted that there was entrenched racism with regarding to police actions in the context of traffic stops and arrests and callous, violent treatment of some who suffered from mental health conditions. The scathing report concluded that the "systemic problems in MPD made what happened to George Floyd possible".

The DoJ report is a wake-up call to police institutions, most of which continue with their business-as-usual approach toward dealing with the nuances and social complexities of policing multicultural America. The review of police body-worn camera videos, incident and police reports, and hundreds of complaints filed against officers makes it clear that there is an urgent, glaring need for police reforms that address the most challenging issues of the use of excessive force, racial profiling, bureaucratic-militarisation of police culture, and an institutional lack of accountability for police misconduct. Many U.S. States have attempted transformative change, for example by restricting the use of chokeholds and setting up mechanisms for more effective reporting of use of force details. However, public safety, especially in the context of overzealous, armed, police officers using force against persons of colour and other minorities, will genuinely improve only by "limiting when and why police are called upon in the first place". American culture's over-reliance on the police to maintain order in public life has meant that the door has been opened to law enforcement officers responding to minor offences in a racially prejudiced manner, especially when in such instances, public health professionals or other service providers might be better able to address the situation.

A people of an emerald isle, waiting with doosras

Gopalkrishna Gandhi

is a former administrator and diplomat who served in Sri Lanka over two spells for six years

George Bernard Shaw visited Ceylon in 1948, skipping India altogether. So much for the ego of the island's massive neighbour. But that was not all. In a letter to India's Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru, the unpredictable playwright wrote: "I was convinced that Ceylon is the cradle of the human race because everybody there looks an original. All other nations are obviously mass produced." Anthropology was as far from Shaw's brain as the razor from his beard. But in this observation he had hit upon both a human truth and a Lankan verity.

The emerald isle's people have traditionally been seen in terms of ethnic groups. The categorisation has its uses, as, for instance, in understanding the demographic weight of sections of its population such as given in this latest figure (Census of 2012): Sinhalese 74.9%; Sri Lankan Tamil 11.2%; Sri Lankan Moors 9.2%; Indian Tamil 4.2%; others 0.5% ('Moors' being a quaint Lankan way of describing, a la Shakespeare and Othello, the island's Islamic population).

But identity-clustering can be very self-depriving for a nation.

Muthiah Muralitharan is one of the 4.2% of Sri Lanka's population called Indian Tamils. '...born in Kandy...to a Hill Country Tamil (Malaiyaha Tamizhar) Hindu family of tea plantation workers, the eldest of the four sons born to Lakshmi and to Sinnasamy Muttiah who runs a successful biscuit-making business, he is a grandson of Periasamy Sinnasamy who migrated from south India in 1920 to find work on Ceylon's tea estates.' But Murali is also the fast-bowling spinner of spinners who sends the ball as only he does, with a menacing sneer to match, and 'has taken more wickets in international cricket than any other bowler'. You cannot get more original than that.

The Sinnasamy family is part of the large group of agricultural labourers that began coming into the island from the drought-ravaged and poor districts in southern Madras over a 100 year period, from about 1830 to 1930. As the plantations and the island's export earnings from the plantations, especially tea, grew, the labourers' numbers grew too. Did their incomes and educational and health scores grow proportionately?

They did not. And here, the single-minded and unrelenting work put in by another 'original' Indian Tamil leader and head of the Ceylon Workers' Congress, the late S. Thondaman, made a difference. He was a 'fast-bowler' of his own kind . His ability to inspire and mobilise his people gave them voice, gave them self-respect. More than that, it made them feel they mattered as persons, individuals.

And there was the issue of citizenship. After 10, 25, 50, 100 years, were they Ceylonese or Indian or a bit of both? Nehru told India's Parliament on April 9, 1958, 'They are or should be citizens of Ceylon.' He had the moral authority to do so, given the Congress-led Parliament's record in the matter of affirmative action to ameliorate India's debasing caste system.

> The time has come for Sri Lanka's Indian Tamils to be harbingers of change

Today, all that is history. The Sirimavo-Shastri Pact of 1964 and the Sirimavo-Indira Gandhi Pact of 1974 saw the translocation of a large number of Indian Tamils to India, a procedure Nehru would have surely resisted. The repatriates are now part of the fluctuating fortunes of India's under-employed, self-employed and unemployed wage-searching masses. But the stateless and futureless situation of the Indian Tamils on Sri Lanka's plantations has ended. The bulk of Indian Tamils on Sri Lanka's plantations are now citizens of that country, with voting rights.

More and more of the young among the Indian Tamils now are seeking avenues of work outside the estates, like Murali's father did, with reasonable success. On-estate issues remain, in terms of deficits in housing, medical and educational standards. And in ergonomic norms. And, there are political aspirations of the Indian Tamils in Sri Lanka that call for remedial action as well. These, as identified by participants in a 'Malaiyaham200' event organised by the Katugastota-based Institute of Social Development include retention of the proportional electoral system, power sharing at the central, provincial and local government levels ,the re-vesting of human settlements in the plantations with the State (not the estates) and being recognised as villages so that government schemes and services as also land rights can flow equally to the community.

Changes that are needed

But casting a forward gaze, the Indian Tamils of Sri Lanka now need the following five important changes to be made by them and for them:

First, to start being seen as distinct and equal Lankans with huge and unique professional expertise making a major, indeed critically important, contribution to their country's economic well-being.

Second, to have their land-based climate-dependent profession protected against the now almost certain threat of adverse and erratic weather conditions. This calls for urgent, in fact, emergency mitigation strategies not just in the interest of plantation labour but also of the plantations themselves, and therefore of Lanka's economy.

Third, to have their worksites, work-cycles and work-styles readied to face the real possibility of COVID-19's variants and other pandemics, especially zoonotically triggered ones, re-visiting the plantations. It is vital to obviate the crippling disruption that shattered plantation aspirations over the virus's two waves by dips in export, in prices.

Fourth, to ensure that this sector is not left vulnerable to policy-related adversities such as those that were created by the ill-conceived ban on chemical fertilizer some months ago which hit tea estates in the gut, and to make it creatively equipped to respond to the gradual but globally discernible change in tea tastes, away from the current black tea pattern towards green and herbal teas.

Fifth, and most important now, to recognise the global opportunities, and equally the challenge that Artificial Intelligence (AI) is opening for the community. The opportunities are, among others, helping predict weather and, using drones, help making planting, de-weeding and de-infesting near perfect if not zero-defect operations, and with algorithms, transform the future of the plantation sector. Authentication has been cited as one area where AI will confer a boon. Labels can and do misrepresent facts. Traditional methods can fail to see adulteration or to spot 'spent leaf' in bags of mixed tea. "100% X or 100 % Y", may be only 10% or 20% so. AI will tell the true from the fake. Algorithms detecting fraud, calibrating flavour through sensor technology and chemometrics are going to transform the industry. But will AI cut employment on estates? Could AI, in a short space of a few months, displace hundreds of thousands now working on the island's hill-slopes? Will AI, in some unregulated brain and in some frenzy of corporate rivalry, tamper with tea or coffee preferences and generate a spasm of craving for something that replaces tea and coffee and makes the tea bush or coffee plant objects in museums of antiquated forest produce? This is not about science fiction, but about AI's flip side. Is anyone in Sri Lanka or elsewhere, thinking of this? Are plantation labour unions? They must.

If Sri Lanka's plantation workers, in a measured but audacious move, were to be made part of the creation and development of an AI university situated in the central highlands and specialising in algorithms for the plantation sector, their originality as individuals and genius as persons could work not for their own so much as for Lanka's good. The 4.2% have been generators of wealth for Sri Lanka, themselves remaining in want. The time has come for them to be harbingers of change, themselves leading – and regulating – the change.

The author of *Pygmalion* was an AI drone buzzing over the island's future spotting not Eliza Doolittle like originals who could speak a zero-defect English but women and men spinning their individual destinies with *doosra*s waiting to fly.

Rawalpindi gains the upper hand in troubled Pakistan

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After the violent events of May 9 in Pakistan following former Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan's arrest in an alleged corruption case, the country's powerful military establishment has decided to decimate Mr. Khan's Pakistan Tehreek-i-Insaf (PTI). Negotiations are now off the table as the Army leadership swiftly dismantles the 'Imran Khan Project', which it had initiated with fanfare some years ago. Following his unceremonious removal last year, Mr. Khan and his PTI had targeted the military in an unprecedented manner. Mr. Khan's arrest on May 9 was possibly linked to him publicly accusing and naming a serving Inter-Services Intelligence officer, Major General Faisal Naseer, for alleged assassination attempts on Mr. Khan's life.

Never before has a civilian leader, especially an Opposition leader, in Pakistan's 75-year history, challenged the Army in the manner that Mr. Khan has. The Pakistani military and its intelligence agencies are now avenging a year of public humiliation heaped on them by Mr. Khan and his party leaders.

This episode has provided the military establishment further opportunity to tighten its grip over democratic institutions in Pakistan, win back public trust - rather forcefully – and create a new political arrangement or "hybrid" regime. More importantly, the Chief of Army Staff (COAS), General Syed Asim Munir, sees this as an opportunity to move away from his predecessor's shadow (General Qamar Javed Bajwa) and shape his own legacy. Before his retirement, Gen. Bajwa, in a speech last November, had claimed that the Army's role in politics was "unconstitutional" and that it had decided to remain "apolitical". Gen. Munir has also made similar assertions, but the brutal clampdown on the PTI is belying those claims.

During the May 9 protests, Mr. Khan's supporters had breached the Army's general headquarters in Rawalpindi, Pakistan's power centre. For the very first time in Pakistan's existence, civilians conducted a "symbolic coup" against the powerful military establishment, in a way telling them to stay in their barracks.

> The brewing civil unrest will further exacerbate the troubles confronting Pakistan

Expectedly, this muscle-flexing has backfired. PTI cadres allegedly involved in the May 9 violence will face trials in military courts under the Army Act and Official Secrets Act. Notably, this action of the Army has received support from the current Pakistan Democratic Movement (PDM) government. The Army is also running a well-crafted propaganda to portray itself as a "victim" of PTI-led "terrorism".

The Army has not stopped. Nearly the entire senior leadership of the PTI has "officially" left the party after caving in to pressure from the military establishment and to avoid imprisonment. The PTI is now struggling to survive, and Mr. Khan is fast losing his support base and the motivation to continue his fight for "Haqeeqi Azadi", or 'true independence'.

Political dynamics

However, Mr. Khan's political woes go beyond this. The violence of May 9 has also resulted in the indefinite postponement of provincial elections in Punjab and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. Mr. Khan and the PTI had long demanded elections in these provinces. Additionally, the likelihood of the PDM government holding country-wide general elections later this year has also diminished significantly. These dynamics will further exacerbate political instability and boost the military's role in politics.

Under these circumstances, the military establishment may no longer require a coup d'état to exert control in the country. Traditionally, weak coalition governments and "hybrid" political setups such as Mr. Khan's PTI government, have provided more room for the Army to assert its control. In fact, many analysts have labelled the present political arrangement in Pakistan as a "quasi-military dictatorship."

The military is using Mr. Khan and PTI as an example to warn other political parties against crossing the red line. Moreover, it is believed that the 'Imran Khan project' posed significant threats to unity within the military, as there have been reports of internal divisions within the Army over this issue.

Consequently, the crackdown on PTI supporters and the proposed utilisation of military courts are also being carried out to target alleged dissenters within the security establishment. Reportedly, the Pakistan Army is set to take serious actions against its own officers who did not show expected resistance against pro-Khan protestors. For example, the former Lahore Corps Commander, Lt. General Salman Fayyaz Ghani, is under investigation for allegedly allowing PTI supporters to enter his house and carry out acts of vandalism on May 9. Media reports claim that Lt.Gen. Ghani's wife is closely related to the Chief Justice of Pakistan, Umar Ata Bandial. The PDM government has targeted Justice Bandial for allegedly favouring Mr. Khan, demanding his resignation for causing "anarchy" and a "crisis". It is worth noting that Mr. Khan's support within the country's judiciary has caused tensions between the judiciary and the military establishment.

This brewing civil unrest will further exacerbate the troubles facing Pakistan, which is already grappling with a severe economic crisis and numerous security challenges. The May 9 protests have given the Army ample justification to end Mr. Khan's political career and to fragment the PTI. With the military establishment emerging stronger and civilian institutions getting weaker, the people of Pakistan will bear the brunt, facing food shortages, power outages and limited fuel supplies alongside skyrocketing inflation. The prospect of political and economic stability in Pakistan remains a distant dream.

The views expressed are personal

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Manipur unrest

At a time when Manipur continues to be rocked by widespread ethnic violence and arson, it is appalling and a matter of utmost concern that the central government has accorded weightage to political considerations rather than the safety and security of the common man.

The continued and widespread unrest in the north-eastern State is a typical example of how a situation can get out of hand if sensitive social issues are not handled with maturity and in a time-bound manner by the powers that be. In an already surcharged atmosphere, political parties of all hues need to desist from stoking the fires of hatred for political mileage. The State government needs to act with political sagacity to restore order and peace.

B. Suresh Kumar,
Coimbatore

Rice offer

The gesture by Punjab to offer to help Karnataka with its free rice scheme (Page 1, June 20) is a heartening development in the backdrop of political bitterness and confrontations in various parts of the nation. The initiative does show the central government in a bad light especially when there is much grain storage in Food Corporation of India granaries. Such gestures will contribute richly to public welfare.

P.K. Sharma,
Barnala, Punjab

Corrections & Clarifications

In the report on the death of Malayalam actor Poojappura Ravi (June 19, 2023, some editions) the name of the founder of the Kalanilayam drama troupe was erroneously given as Jagathy N.K. Achari. It should have been Krishnan Nair.

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Semiconductor fab: the unfinished agenda

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To set up a semiconductor fabrication plant in India is not mere hubris. There is a growing market. There are also strategic reasons: India's susceptibility to coercion increases due to its dependence on the import of semiconductors. Therefore, the government's 2022 Semiconductor Mission is laudable. But today, there is still uncertainty about whether India will have a fab. In this context, it is important to understand why earlier attempts failed and examine alternate approaches.

Earlier attempts

The first serious attempt was made in 2007 in the form of a Special Incentive Package (SIP), but it yielded no response. The second attempt in the form of Modified SIP in 2012 fared better. After over two years of extensive outreach with practically all the major fab companies in the world, India came close to having a fab. Two consortia were approved by the Cabinet with an attractive set of incentives. Jaiprakash Associates in partnership with IBM and Israeli company TowerJazz constituted one, while the other was led by Hindustan Semiconductor Manufacturing Corporation along with ST Microelectronics. The two fabs together involved investment of $10 billion, and the government offered incentives amounting to nearly $5 billion in the form of cash and tax cuts. Locations for the fabs were finalised and land was allotted. But finally, both failed to mobilise resources.

Semiconductor fabrication represents the ultimate frontier of human tech advancement. The frontier has been advancing adhering to Moore's law that the number of transistors in a unit area doubles every 18 months. But the progress of miniaturisation is accompanied by higher complexity and costs. As a result, the industry has seen a decline in the number of participants.

China started late in the semiconductor fab industry. But backed by massive government financial support over the last two decades, it acquired hundreds of loss-making fabs from around the world and built its fab industry. Aided by lower manufacturing costs and a massive electronics manufacturing industry, China's chip production has grown rapidly. By the time the U.S., the traditional leader in this game, realised, China had become one of the major producers of chips. Aided by its market supremacy in rare earths, which are essential for chip production, it has a strategic stranglehold on chip-making. Over the last year, the U.S. and its Western allies have blocked the transfer of the latest fab-related technology to China. But this could be a case of closing the stable door after the horses have bolted. The U.S. enacted the CHIPS and Science Act in 2022, with nearly $40 billion in subsidies, in an effort to bring back semiconductor manufacturing to the the country. The European Union sanctioned €7.4 billion for a new fab in France. India will have to contend with these countries in what has become an intense chip warfare.

Investment in a semiconductor fab is one of the riskiest. Billions of dollars need to be recovered before the technology becomes obsolete. This necessitates substantial production volumes for economic viability, often reaching levels that are adequate to meet global demand. It is therefore difficult to conceive of a fab which is based on the domestic market only. The advantage of semiconductors having a small freight-to-price ratio and a zero-custom duty regime under the Information Technology Agreement, 1996, facilitates production in a single location and global sales. This is why no company is interested in setting a greenfield fab.

Developing an ecosystem for chip manufacturing in a greenfield location is a major challenge. Hundreds of chemicals and gases are required for chip fabrication, people need to be trained, and abundant clean water be made available. But above all is the art of chip-making. Despite the best of equipment, poor quality and low yields can make fabs fail.

There are other issues, such as whether to set up a logic/processor, memory or analog fab. An electronic equipment and its functionalities are characterised by their logic chips, which are therefore strategically important and generate the highest profit. The most advanced set of technologies is needed to manufacture them. Analog chips are essential, but have the least strategic value. Memory fabs use the most advanced feature nodes, while analog fabs can be even as large as 130 nm. Logic fabs are the most expensive and analog fabs the least. A relatively easier option is Assembly, Testing, Packaging and Marking (ATMP), to get the fab ecosystem developed before the full-fledged fab is set up. But ATMPs have little value in terms of actual chip-making.

Lessons from China

India's strategy has been to set up a new logic fab. China, which acquired loss-making fabs and then set up its own logic fab, provides lessons. Acquiring existing fabs has many advantages: they are reasonably priced, have stabilised technology, a supply chain ecosystem, an established product line, and market. They will enable India to build the fab ecosystem and train human resources. Much lower subsidies would be required, and the funds saved could be used for advanced R&D in fab technologies which will help build state-of-the-art fab in next few years. Another strategy could be setting up ATMPs. Tessolve, now acquired by Tatas, had set up an ATMP in 2013-14. This ATMP is successfully packaging chips upto 7 nm feature size. China has over 100 ATMPs.

China started on the fab journey about 20 years ago. As the Chinese saying goes, the best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago, but the second best time is now.

India, which is way behind China on the fab journey, could take lessons from its neighbour

A churning in Andhra Pradesh

With elections due next year, friends and foes seem to be changing yet again

STATE OF PLAY

Sumit Bhattacharjee

The no-holds-barred attack by Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Chief Minister on the Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy-led government, at a public meeting in Visakhapatnam, has set the tone for politics in Andhra Pradesh ahead of the 2024 general and Assembly elections. Mr. Shah claimed that Mr. Reddy's government was "ridden with corruption". He accused the government of turning Visakhapatnam into a hub of "antisocial elements" and "drug peddlers".

The general secretary of the YSR Congress Party (YSRCP) demanded that Mr. Shah provide proof to substantiate his allegations. And for the first time since he became Chief Minister, Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy indicated at Palanadu, a few days after the Home Minister's attack, that his party may not have the support of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) in the 2024 elections. This has given rise to speculation that the winning combination of the 2014 elections – the BJP, the Telugu Desam Party (TDP) and the Jana Sena Party (JSP) – could be back in the reckoning.

While the three parties performed well in 2014, in 2018 TDP chief Chandrababu Naidu pulled out of the National Democratic Alliance alleging that the Centre did not fulfil its promises regarding special status to Andhra Pradesh. Many believe that this was Mr. Naidu's biggest political blunder. He not only walked out of the alliance, but also launched a tirade against Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Mr. Shah. TDP workers carried black flags when Mr. Modi toured

Andhra Pradesh and threw stones at Mr. Shah's convoy when the Home Minister visited Tirupati, thus burning bridges with the BJP.

However, after being routed by Mr. Jagan Reddy in the 2019 elections, Mr. Naidu has been making great efforts to patch up with the BJP. He met Mr. Shah in New Delhi about two weeks ago, before the Home Minister's visit to Visakhapatnam. BJP president J.P. Nadda was also present at the meeting. JSP leader Pawan Kalyan and Mr. Naidu have also met several times in the last one year. All this has led to speculation of a tie-up between the three parties. Some believe that the softening of the BJP's stand towards the TDP could be because of the national party's disastrous performance in Karnataka.

There is also some speculation that the Naidu-Shah meeting was more focused on working out a formula in Telangana, where the contest is more direct between the Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS), the Congress which is picking up steam, and the BJP. Andhra Pradesh has 25 seats in the Lok Sabha and Telangana has 17. The BJP is aiming to make inroads into both since, after Karnataka, the Telugu-speaking States are its best bet in the south.

Compared to Telangana, the role of the BJP in Andhra Pradesh is still not clear, however. Many people have raised the question of the timing of the Union government's doling out of funds to the State government. In the last one month, the Union government has given close to ₹23,000 crore to the State government under revenue deficit grants and the Polavaram project.

BJP MP G.V.L. Narasimha Rao defended the grant saying it was handed by the Union government and not the BJP. The grant was given under provisions of the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act, he said.

Even if there is an alliance between these three parties, it would face an uphill challenge. Mr. Reddy's schemes are popular with the people. In the latest Budget, he allocated over ₹54,000 crore for direct benefit transfer schemes, which is about 20% of the total expenditure outlay of ₹2.79 lakh crore. More importantly, despite the financial crunch and the Opposition raising a hue and cry that the government is funding the scheme by pushing the State into a debt crisis, the Chief Minister has never discontinued his schemes. The beneficiaries of these schemes could therefore be loyal supporters. He also now appears to be addressing the issues of the State government employees. The new Guaranteed Pension Scheme seems to have been received well by the agitating employees.

Meanwhile, the TDP and JSP have started reaching out to the people. TDP leader Nara Lokesh's Yuva Galam padayatra has received a good response in the Rayalaseema region, while Pawan Kalyan's Varahi Yatra has made waves in the East Godavari region. While Mr. Naidu is desperate to revive the past glory of the TDP, the BJP is trying its best to gain some following in the south. Whether the speculation of an alliance becomes reality remains to be seen.

UPI payments: relief for users, a headache for banks

The surge in UPI transactions has been mostly in terms of volume and not value

DATA POINT

Jasmin Nihalani & Vignesh Radhakrishnan

The dizzying array of daily limits on United Payments Interface (UPI) transactions set by apps and banks – both in terms of value and volume – has put the spotlight on the rapid rise in such transactions in India in recent years.

In 2021, the National Payments Corporation of India (NCPI) limited the number of daily transactions users can make to 20, and the amount to ₹1 lakh per day. However, banks and apps have come up with their own limits at various points in time in recent months. This has created a complex web of limitations both in value and volume. For instance, according to ICICI bank's UPI FAQ page, the number of transactions is limited to 10 in a 24-hour period, whereas Bank of Baroda and HDFC Bank allow 20 transactions in the same period.

Such limits were introduced given the surge in the volume of UPI transactions in India in recent years after it was popularised as an alternative to cash in the period after demonetisation. UPI payments were introduced in India as a pilot programme on April 11, 2016.

Chart 1 shows the month-wise volume of UPI transactions in million between April 2016 and May 2023. In May 2018, around 190 million UPI payments were made in India. This rose to 9,415 million in May 2023 – an astonishing increase of nearly 4,855%.

Chart 2 shows the share of various instruments in the volume of retail payments in India over time. In 2017-18, the share of UPI in all retail payments was just 5.9%, while pre-paid payment instruments (wallets offered by Paytm and Amazon, gift vouchers, etc.) and debit cards dominated with shares of over 20% each. In 2022-23, UPI edged out all instruments with its share increasing to over 73%, while pre-paid payment instruments came a distant second with a 6.5% share. Also, the share of credit cards in retail payments decreased from over 11% to just 2.5% in the same period.

However, it should be noted that the surge in transactions was mostly in terms of volume and not value. The value of UPI transactions carried out in May 2018 was ₹33,288 crore, which amounts to ₹1,756 per transaction. The corresponding figure for May 2023 was ₹14,89,145 crore, which amounts to ₹1,581 per transaction – a fall of ₹175 per transaction in five years. **Chart 3** shows the share of various instruments in the value of retail payments in India over time. In 2017-18, the share of UPI in the total value of retail payments was just 0.4%. It increased to 21.1% in 2022-23.

When the surge in volume and the decline in value are read together, two trends emerge. First, consumers are increasingly using UPI as an alternative to petty cash, with the value associated with each transaction becoming smaller and smaller over time. Second, according to PwC's Indian payments handbook, released in December 2020, banks are struggling to keep up with the surge in UPI payments by upgrading their banking infrastructure and technical systems. This struggle is leading to transaction failures. This is also why smaller banks are setting UPI transaction limits which are much lower than even the ₹1 lakh allowed by the NCPI.

Charts 4 and 5 show the volume of UPI transactions through UPI apps and remitter banks, respectively. PhonePe dominates the apps, closely followed by GPay, while Paytm was a distant third. Among banks, State Bank of India was the remitter bank for a majority of UPI transactions, while HDFC was a distant second.

Convenience to complexity

The data for the charts has been collated from the National Payments Corporation of India and the Reserve Bank of India

Chart 1: The chart shows the month-wise volume of UPI transactions in million between April 2016 and May 2023

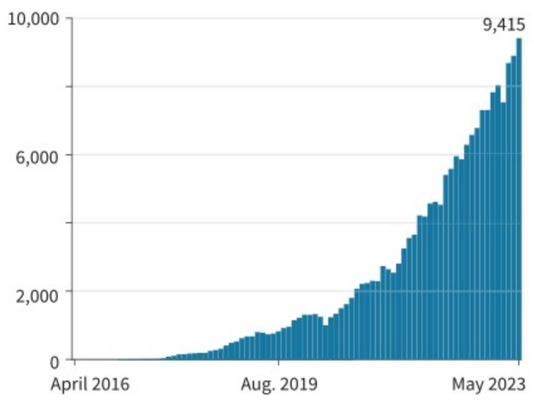
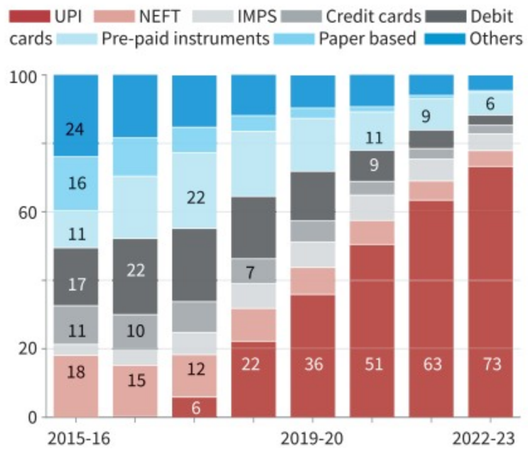


Chart 2: The chart shows the share (in %) of various instruments in the volume of retail payments in India over time



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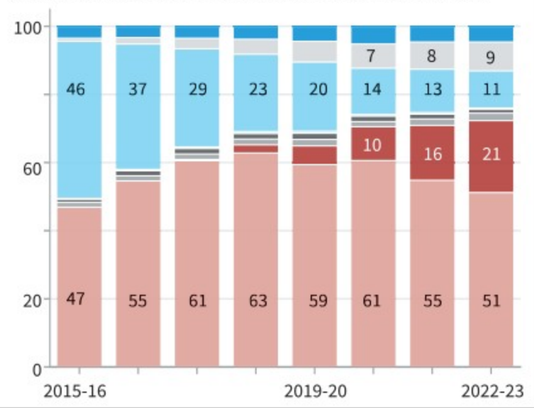


Chart 4: The volume of UPI transactions through apps

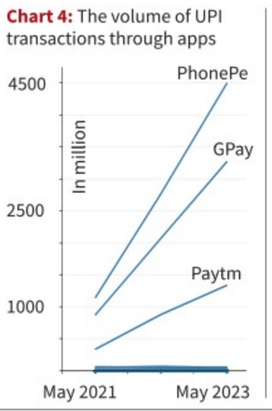
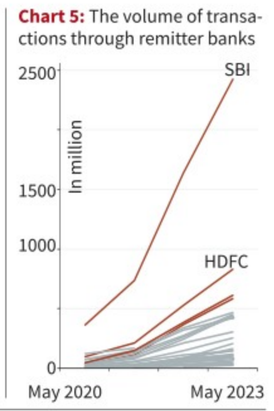


Chart 5: The volume of transactions through remitter banks



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FROM THE ARCHIVES
The Hindu

FIFTY YEARS AGO JUNE 21, 1973

U.S. cities smothering in garbage

Washington, June 20: America's cities are smothering in garbage and nearly half of them will run out of places to dump their trash within five years, a major study has found. According to the study, entitled "Cities and the Nation's disposal Crisis" by the National League of Cities and the United States Conference of Mayors, Federal action is urgently needed to avoid strangulation of cities on their own solid wastes. Cities, the study finds, are annually accumulating a trash heap of 250 million tons: 28 billion bottles, 48 billion cans, four million tons of plastic, 30 million tons of paper, 100 million tyres and three million junk cars. "And," warns Mayor John G. Hutchinson of Charleston, who directed the three-month study, "what we are throwing away does not really go away at all – it has to be put in some place." Cities are concerned because the wastefulness of Americans is reaching crisis proportions. While the amount of solid waste discarded by the population has doubled in the last 50 years, it has doubled in the cities in the last 20 years. The future looks even bleaker, mainly because of the fascination with packaging, which the study predicts will have increased 63 per cent between 1958 and 1976. Ninety per cent of all packaging is tossed on the trash heap. While mayors and city managers dealing with the problem insist they do not oppose environmental protection laws passed in recent years, they point out in the study that these very laws have intensified the problem of disposal.

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO JUNE 21, 1923

Lausanne

Lausanne, June 20: No progress has been made at the conference. The Allied delegates are still awaiting the decision of their Governments. It is understood that the difficulty is due to a Turkish counter-formula with regard to the debt problem which the Allied plenipotentiaries are unable to accept. This recognises the validity of the Muharram decree and restores the pre-war status of the public debt administration, but provides moratarium till March 1st, 1924, after which payment of interest will be in French francs, unless an agreement is otherwise reached in the interval between the Turkish Government and the Bond-holders.

From Page One

Assam Rifles to secure lifelines of Manipur hills

In the southeast, the border areas of Chandel and Tengnoupal, primarily Kuki and Naga-dominated districts, are now dependent on Myanmar for the supply of essentials as they are blocked from the rest of Manipur.

On Tuesday, Mizoram Chief Minister Zoramthanga tweeted that 2,388.50 quintals of rice have been sent to "Zo ethnic tribes in troubled Manipur areas and internally displaced persons residing in Mizoram by Govt. Of Mizoram, including other relief supplies". A total of 11,785 internally displaced people from Manipur have taken shelter in Mizoram since the eruption of ethnic strife in Manipur, Mr. Zoramthanga said.

Since NH 2 has been blocked by Kuki groups in the north, the supplies to Meitei-dominated areas in the Imphal Valley are being maintained through NH 37. The average daily movement on NH 37 has spiked from 390 to 483 vehicles.

PM Modi lands in U.S., many events in pipeline

Meanwhile, in Washington, preparations for the visit were under way with officials on both sides racing towards finalising a joint statement from the bilateral meetings that are scheduled for Thursday.

"We're hosting India for an official state visit to put our cooperation on an inexorable trajectory as we support India's emergence as a great power that will be central to ensuring U.S. interests in the coming decades," John Kirby, who heads strategic communications for President Joe Biden's National Security Council, said at a press briefing.

It is the third state visit of the Biden administration, which hosted French President Emmanuel Macron and South Korean President Yoon Suk Yeol.

Expected over the next few days are deliverables in global health cooperation, the fight against climate change, defence cooperation, emerging technology and space and in the area of people-to-people exchanges.

The tangible outcomes of the visit are centred around the Initiative for Critical and Emerging Technologies (ICET), launched by the National Security Advisers of both countries in early 2023, to enhance and provide a framework for defence-industrial cooperation between India and the U.S.

A significant number of deliverables is expected from Mr. Modi's visit, including an agreement between General Electric (GE) and Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) for the co-development and co-production of GE 414 jet engines in India, to fit the Indian Air Force's Tejas Mk-2 fighter jets. Also expected is the sale, to India, of 31 armed Predator MQ-9 Reaper drones at a price of over $3 billion. To coincide with Mr. Modi's visit, the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and Pentagon, along with the Ministry of Defence, is conducting an event in Washington, INDUS-X, to bring together actors in the defence and emerging technology space, to create some momentum for some of the programmes under the ICET.

India's increasing commitment to playing an international role in the Quad (a grouping of India, the U.S., Australia and Japan), Mr. Kirby said, signified New Delhi's growing willingness to join the U.S. in advancing a vision of a free and rules-based global order.

However, the Biden administration is being careful not to tie this visit to its position on China. Asked if Mr. Modi was being invited to the White House as a move to counter China, Mr. Kirby was quick to say, "No."

More sensitive topics, on which the Indian and U.S. governments do not see eye to eye are likely to come up during Mr. Modi's time in Washington. Ukraine is one such topic and the Modi government's human rights track record, the second, according to Mr. Kirby.

Top court clears Central forces in West Bengal

Senior advocate Siddharth Agarwal for West Bengal government said the High Court order of June 15 had effectively taken away the State's power to maintain law and order in its own jurisdiction.

Senior advocate Harish Salve, appearing for Suvendu Adhikari, the Leader of the Opposition in the West Bengal, belonging to the BJP, and other respondents, said the West Bengal government imagined the Union forces as an "invading Army".

The Bench reassured the State that the Central forces were only meant to ensure the conduct of fair elections.

China to set up nuclear power plant in Pakistan

He said Pakistan would be getting an investment of $4.8 billion from China in this project, which "sends the message that Pakistan is a place where Chinese companies and investors continue to show their trust and faith".

Pakistan's Chashma power plants are considered a key in the production of cheap nuclear power. The installed capacity of the existing four power plants is 1,330 MW, according to the Pakistan Atomic Energy Commission.

SC refuses urgent hearing on plea seeking Army protection for Kukis

The top court lists the case for July 3 after the summer vacation, saying Manipur violence is a 'purely law and order issue' and it chooses to trust the administration to bring peace; it added that any court intervention may 'aggravate' the situation

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Tuesday termed the Manipur ethnic violence, which has left nearly 100 dead, a "purely law and order issue", while "hoping" that courts will not be asked to deploy the Army or Central security forces.

A Vacation Bench of Justices Surya Kant and M.M. Sundresh refused to list a plea by the Manipur Tribal Forum Delhi (MTFD) for Army protection to the Kuki tribal people urgently, in a day or two. It listed the case for July 3, after the summer vacation, saying it was the earliest the case could be heard.

The Bench indicated that its intervention, one way or the other, now may tend to "aggravate" the situation in the State, which has seen clashes since May 3 between the dominant Meitei community and Kuki-Zomi tribes, and create "more problems".

The court chose to trust the administration to work to bring peace back to the State.

Solicitor-General Tushar Mehta, for Manipur and the Union governments, said, "Security forces are on the ground... they are doing their best."

Senior advocate Colin Gonsalves, for the MTFD, said violence and "killings" have continued despite the "solemn assurances" given by the government in the Supreme Court to protect the people.

"Tribal areas have been attacked. Tribals have been killed. I want Army protection," Mr. Gonsalves pleaded.

> We hope courts are not asked to pass these kinds of orders... that Army or Central forces should be deployed... let the administration look into the situation
> SUPREME COURT

"We hope courts are not asked to pass these kinds of orders... that Army should be deployed, Central forces should be deployed... This is purely a law and order issue... let the administration look into it," the court replied.

"We have come to Your Lordships because you are the only institution now that can protect the tribals... It is a rampage... Solemn assurances were given to this court, yet tribals have been killed," Mr. Gonsalves said. Mr. Mehta said similar pleas had been filed before the vacation, but the top court had chosen not to intervene in the situation while posting them after the holidays.

"Let the security situation become better, public interest petitions can wait," he said.

On May 17, the Solicitor-General had said the situation in the State had "improved a lot". He had said the State was "peaceful and quiet".

Immediate trigger

The MTFD application has sought "immediate directions to the Army to take full control of the law and order and public order situation in the districts of Churachandpur, Chandel, Kangpokpi, Imphal East, Imphal West and villages in Manipur to ensure with immediate effect that the killing of Kukis comes to an end".

The immediate trigger for the violence has been a March 27 order by the Manipur High Court's Single Judge Bench of Acting Chief Justice M.V. Muralidharan, directing the State government to "consider the case of the petitioners for inclusion of the Meetei/Meitei community in the Scheduled Tribe list, expeditiously, preferably within a period four weeks from the date of receipt of a copy of this order".

On May 17, a Bench led by Chief Justice of India D.Y. Chandrachud had orally indicated its inclination to stay the High Court order.

However, the State had urged the top court not to do so for the time being as a stay may further affect the situation on the ground.

The High Court has however issued notice in a petition filed by the Meitei Tribes Union to review its contentious March 27 order.

Manipur skips this year's Rath Yatra over clashes

The Hindu Bureau
GUWAHATI

Manipur on Tuesday skipped the annual Rath Yatra procession, a more than 200-year-old major ritualist event involving chariots, following the ongoing unrest.

Clashes between the non-tribal Meitei and the tribal Kuki communities broke out on May 3 and has claimed over 100 lives and displaced more than 60,000. A majority of the Meitei people follow a form of indigenised Vaishnavism associated with Lord Krishna.

The Shree Shree Govindaji Temple Board, Manipur's apex body that holds the Rath Yatra locally known as Kang Chingba, decided against holding any public event this time. The yatra entails placing idols of Lord Jagannath and his two siblings in a 30-foot-tall wooden chariot, which is then pulled by devotees.

Other organisations also decided not to organise the ceremonial procession.

Hard to restore Internet while blocking social media websites, Manipur tells HC

Abhinay Lakshman
NEW DELHI

ISPs warn that it would not be possible to block access through third-party VPNs

With the Manipur government telling the High Court in Imphal that it would be difficult to restore Internet access while blocking social media websites, a Bench of Justices Ahanthem Bimol Singh and A. Guneshwar Sharma has now sought a reply from Internet Service Providers regarding the matter.

The court was hearing a public interest litigation (PIL) petition seeking the restoration of Internet access in the State while blocking social media websites, in light of the difficulties faced by citizens. The Internet has been suspended in Manipur since May 3, when ethnic conflict broke out between the Meitei and Kuki communities.

During the hearing in this case, the State government submitted an affidavit before the court on June 16, saying that it would be difficult to ensure that social media websites were effectively blocked if the Internet was restored.

In the affidavit filed by the Home Department, the State government said that a meeting was held with the Chief Secretary, senior government officials and the Chief Technical Officers of Internet Service Providers (ISPs) on June 7, where this proposition was discussed.

Having discussed it with their technical teams, the service providers said, in their independent responses, that they would require the government to provide a list of static Internet protocol or IP addresses to be whitelisted or allowed, while everything else would be blocked. This can be made possible, the government said.

However, the ISPs also warned that even if social media websites were blocked, it would not be possible to block access to them through third-party VPNs or virtual private networks, the State government said.

PM's stoic silence sends a message of indifference to Manipur, says Opposition

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Okram Ibobi Singh

Manipur Chief Minister N. Biren Singh is the "architect" of the ethnic violence in his State, leaders of of 10 like-minded Opposition parties of Manipur said in a memorandum to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, in which they also questioned the PM's "stoic silence".

The leaders said that they submitted the three-page memorandum to the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) as they were unable to get an appointment to meet Mr. Modi before he left for the United States on Tuesday morning.

The signatories to the memorandum are leaders from the Congress, the Janata Dal(U), Communist Party of India, Communist Party of India (Marxist), Trinamool Congress, Aam Aadmi Party, Forward Bloc, Nationalist Congress Party, Shiv Sena (Uddhav Thackeray) and the Revolutionary Socialist Party.

Addressing a joint press conference at the All India Congress Committee (AICC) headquarters, former Chief Minister Okram Ibobi Singh said that they were not in Delhi to beg from the Centre but had wanted to meet the Prime Minister as a guardian and to seek his immediate intervention.

'Different approach'

Mr. Singh said that Opposition leaders from the State had been camping in Delhi since June 10, but Mr. Modi did not give them any appointment.

The former Chief Minister also wondered whether the Centre would have adopted the same approach if there had been violence in "mainland Indian States like Madhya Pradesh, Bihar or even West Bengal".

NIA arrests 2 linked with 2019 attack by CPI(Maoist)

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The National Investigation Agency (NIA) has arrested two persons, one a woman, for the July 2019 attack on security forces by the Communist Party of India (Maoist) elements near Tiriya village in Chhattisgarh.

Six CPI(Maoist) operatives and one civilian were killed in the incident.

One of the arrested-accused has been identified as B.Ch. Padma, who earlier operated as a divisional committee member of the CPI (Maoist) and was currently acting as a coordinator between front organisations and the outfit. The other accused is Dubasi Devender, who was closely associated with the CPI (Maoist) cadre. He allegedly worked as a courier for them and secretly transported their messages (both paper-based and digital) and facilitated anti-national activities.

The two were arrested by the NIA on Sunday.

Railways to improve travel amenities for passengers in unreserved coaches

S. Vijay Kumar
CHENNAI

Ease of use: Passengers holding unreserved tickets to a destination can travel on any train running in that direction. FILE PHOTO

Travelling in unreserved coaches, especially on long-distance routes, can be a nightmarish experience for many passengers due to the congestion caused by overcrowding and lack of basic amenities. Indian Railways has embarked on a mission to bring about a change in the experience by extending adequate facilities for passengers travelling in unreserved coaches.

According to official sources, the Railway Board has devised a strategy to make journeys comfortable for passengers travelling in the general second class coaches that are attached in the front and rear of all mail and express trains. To start with, instructions have been given to the General Managers of all Zonal Railways to arrange for the availability of affordable meals, drinking water and vending trolleys near unreserved coaches at all stops.

On-board housekeeping

To ensure cleanliness and availability of water on board, housekeeping staff will be deployed at regular intervals to clean the coaches.

Train managers have to plan filling water in the toilets of the unreserved coaches at watering stations *en route*. Drinking water booths will also be established at either end of stations for the benefit of passengers in unreserved coaches.

Sources said that the carrying capacity of unreserved general class coaches is 90 in Integral Coach Factory (ICF) designed coaches, and 99 in Linke Hofmann Busch (LHB) coaches.

Passengers holding unreserved tickets to a particular destination can travel on any train running in that direction though they would have to purchase separate tickets for superfast express trains.

India supplied 160 nations with COVID jabs: Anurag Thakur

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Information & Broadcasting Minister Anurag Thakur said on Tuesday that owing to Prime Minister Narendra Modi's initiatives, India supplied anti-COVID vaccines and essential medicines to 160 countries. He compared this with Uddhav Thackeray confining himself to his home during the pandemic.

"Modi *ji* saved [people] both from epidemic and hunger. By taking the necessary steps in time, he not only saved lives but also took the economy forward. The whole world appreciates that during the COVID period, India supplied essential medicines and vaccine to 160 countries," Mr. Thakur told reporters in Mumbai.

Targeting Mr. Thackeray, the Minister said: "The man who did not leave his home for two-and-a-half years fearing COVID, has been ousted by his own people. He joined hands with the ideology that Balasaheb Thackeray stood against. Uddhav Thackeray should now face the truth."

APPEAL

I am Karunya Devi aged 9 years suffering from Acute Myeloid Leukemia and is advised Chemotherapy at Meenakshi Mission Hospital & Research Centre, Madurai. The total expenditure is Rs.7,00,000/-. Please donate as my family is extremely poor and cannot afford this huge cost. I need your blessings and support. Donations sent by Ch/D.D. favouring **Meenakshi Mission Hospital & Research Centre, Madurai will be acknowledged.** The donations sent through Ch/D.D/NEFT Transfer & Google Pay (Canara Bank, Nungambakkam Branch, A/C No: 60182010063310, IFSC No: CNRB0016018) favouring **Women's Welfare Syndicate** is exempted under 80G IT.

All correspondence is done through **WWS,** Regd Public Charitable Trust, **Flat No.GF 1, Corddel Apartments, O.No.13, N.No.29, Pycrofts Garden Lane, Chennai-600006. Ph: 044-42137401/ 28235324/ 7338978027. E-Mail ID: womenswelfaresyndicate@gmail.com**

Website: www.womenswelfaresyndicate.org

Karunya Devi

Govt. didn't consult on Gandhi Prize, says Adhir

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Days after the government selected Gita Press for the Gandhi Peace Prize, Congress leader in the Lok Sabha Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury on Tuesday said that despite being a member of the jury that decides the winner, he was not part of the selection process.

"I was not informed either verbally or in writing. As the leader of the single largest Opposition party, I never got any invitation from the government. Neither was I informed about the meeting [to pick the awardee]," Mr. Chowdhury told *The Hindu* over phone.

The decision to confer the prize on the Gorakhpur-based Gita Press, one of the largest publishers of Hindu religious texts, had triggered a political row.

India and U.S. share values of democracy, diversity: Modi

Ahead of state visit, PM says there is an unprecedented trust between the two countries; he is making his sixth visit to the U.S. as Prime Minister and will be hosted by President Joe Biden

Suhasini Haidar
NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi said his visit to Washington this week will reinforce shared democratic "values" between India and the United States. Departing from New Delhi on Tuesday, he added that "there is an unprecedented trust" between the two countries today.

Mr. Modi, on his sixth visit to the U.S. as Prime Minister, will be hosted by U.S. President Joe Biden for his first official state visit. He will meet the U.S. leadership, members of Congress, American CEOs, and members of the Indian-American community during the visit, which will focus on enhancing trade and energy, collaborations in science & technology, education, and health.

Key visit: Prime Minister Narendra Modi being welcomed upon his arrival in New York on Tuesday. ANI

It is also expected to yield a number of agreements on defence ties, including deals for jet engines and drones.

"I am confident that my visit to the US will reinforce our ties based on shared values of democracy, diversity and freedom. Together we stand stronger in meeting the shared global challenges," Mr. Modi said.

Mr. Modi will begin his visit to New York with meetings with about 24 "CEOs and Thought leaders", including Tesla founder and Twitter CEO Elon Musk, astrophysicist Neil deGrasse Tyson and singer Falguni Shah.

On Wednesday, he will participate in a yoga event at the site where "India's proposal in December 2014 to recognise an International Day of Yoga" was accepted, Mr. Modi said.

He will also lay flowers at a bust of Mahatma Gandhi installed at the United Nations last year.

Mr. Modi's visit is also expected to face some protests from human rights activists and a section of the Indian-American diaspora. On Tuesday, international groups Human Rights Watch (HRW) and Amnesty International are screening *India: The Modi Question*, the BBC documentary – on the PM's record during the 2002 Gujarat riots –that is banned in India.

China blocks proposal at UN to blacklist 26/11 terror attack accused Sajid Mir

Press Trust of India
UNITED NATIONS

China on Tuesday blocked a proposal by India and the U.S. at the United Nations to designate Pakistan-based Lashkar-e-Taiba terrorist Sajid Mir as a global terrorist. Mir is wanted for his involvement in the 26/11 Mumbai terror attacks.

Beijing blocked the proposal that had been moved by the U.S. and co-designated by India to blacklist Mir under the 1267 Al Qaeda Sanctions Committee of the UN Security Council as a global terrorist and subject him to assets freeze, travel ban and arms embargo.

In September last year, it was learnt that China had put a hold on the proposal to designate Mir at the UN.

Sajid Mir

Mir, believed to be in his mid-40s, is one of India's most wanted terrorists and has a bounty of $5 million placed on his head by the U.S. for his role in the November 2008 terror attacks in Mumbai.

In June last year, Mir was jailed for over 15 years in a terror-financing case by an anti-terrorism court in Pakistan.

Pakistani authorities had in the past claimed that Mir had died, but Western countries remained unconvinced and demanded proof of his death.

This issue became a major sticking point in the assessment by the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) of Pakistan's progress on the action plan late last year. "Mir was LeT's operations manager for the attacks, playing a leading role in their planning, preparation, and execution," the U.S. State Department has said.

Beijing, an all-weather friend of Islamabad, has repeatedly put hold on listings to blacklist Pakistan-based terrorists under the sanctions committee of the UN Security Council.

For his role in the Mumbai attacks, Mir was indicted in the U.S. in April 2011.

100 Central troops for a district: SEC

The Hindu Bureau
KOLKATA

Bengal Opposition threatens daily legal battle if Supreme Court order is not implemented

The West Bengal State Election Commission (WBSEC) on Tuesday requisitioned the deployment of one company of Central forces in every district of the State for the July 8 panchayat elections.

The decision came after the Supreme Court upheld the Calcutta High Court order on deployment of Central security forces.

The requisition of one company of Central forces, which is roughly about 100 personnel for every district, prompted Opposition parties to question the intent of the commission as well as the impact on free and fair polls.

Sources at the commission said that it has requisitioned 22 companies of Central forces for 22 districts in West Bengal. State Election Commissioner Rajiva Sinha refused to comment on whether 22 companies were adequate. The development has triggered outrage among Opposition parties, who said they will approach the High Court again if the orders of the Court were not implemented in letter and spirit.

Leader of the Opposition Suvendu Adhikari said that if the court's order is not implemented, the government and the commission should be prepared for daily legal battles. State Congress president Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury and Mr. Adhikari had approached the High Court seeking Central forces.

There was unrest outside some block development offices (BDO). At Daspur in Paschim Medinipur, a CPI(M) woman candidate was taken to the BDO office by a Trinamool Congress leader to withdraw her nomination.

There was violence outside the BDO office at Burwan in Murshidabad district where Congress candidates were attacked by Trinamool supporters. Mr. Chowdhury held a protest outside the BDO office. Tuesday was the last day for withdrawal of nomination papers.

Seven persons have been killed in the violence in State since June 8.

More Assembly seats for SCs, STs in Assam

The Hindu Bureau
GUWAHATI

The Election Commission on Tuesday published the draft delimitation proposal for Assam by keeping the number of Assembly and Lok Sabha seats unchanged but increasing the number of Assembly seats reserved for the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes.

The Census figure of 2001 was considered for the delimitation exercise, a statement issued by the EC said.

Assam has a total of 126 Assembly and 14 Lok Sabha seats. According to the draft proposal, the number of Assembly seats has increased from 16 to 19 for the STs and from eight to nine for the SCs.

The number of Assembly seats in the autonomous Bodoland Territorial Region has increased by three to 19. Similarly, the hilly West Karbi Anglong district has gained an Assembly constituency.

Multiple proposals

"In total, representations from 11 political parties and 71 other organisations were received," the EC said, adding that the commission went through their suggestions. Some groups were in favour and some against the delimitation on the basis of the 2001 Census, the EC said.

The commission weighed the proposal of looking into the "change of demographic pattern" in the State with some districts registering a low population growth and some abnormally high. The commission was told that the low population growth districts should not be put to disadvantage and number of seats in these districts should not be reduced.

There was a proposal for allowing a variation of 25% vis-à-vis the general norms to ensure that no social group feels alienated due to inadequate representation. This would also take care of diverse geographical features of Assam during the delimitation exercise, the EC was told.

Another proposal was to name a Lok Sabha constituency after Kaziranga.

Suggestions and objections have been invited till July 11, following which a team from the commission would visit Assam for a public hearing on the draft proposal.

Governor celebrates Bengal 'foundation day' despite objection

The Hindu Bureau
KOLKATA

West Bengal Governor C.V. Ananda Bose on Tuesday went ahead with his plans to observe the State's 'foundation day' despite Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee expressing her strong reservation against such a commemoration.

A march was organised by the National Cadets Corps (NCC) followed by a cultural programme at the Raj Bhavan. The Governor also made a speech on the occasion.

The Raj Bhavan also circulated President Droupadi Murmu's greetings to the people of West Bengal on the "foundation day".

On Monday, Ms. Banerjee wrote to the Governor that the decision to observe the "foundation day" was "unilateral", without following the procedure of obtaining necessary consent, and the act "would hurt the sentiments of people and insult and defame the millions of people in West Bengal".

Ms. Banerjee said in her letter that the people of the State have never "rejoiced over, or commemorated, or celebrated" any day as the foundation day of West Bengal and rather have seen Partition as a result of the unleashing of communal forces that could not be resisted at that point of time.

Meanwhile, the Raj Bhavan issued a statement pointing out that an advisory for the commemoration of the "foundation day" of the States was issued by the Union government on May 11.

Flood-like situation in Rajasthan

The Hindu Bureau
JAIPUR

A flood-like situation has arisen in five districts of southern Rajasthan following excessive rain under the impact of Cyclone Biparjoy. The cyclone has created a depression in the sky after entering the State.

Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot made an aerial survey of the affected areas in Jalore, Sirohi and Barmer districts on Tuesday to take stock of the situation.

Indian Overseas Bank G20
Information Technology Department
Central Office: 763, ANNA SALAI, CHENNAI-600002
Indian Overseas Bank (IOB) invites bids for the following:
GOVERNMENT E-MARKET PORTAL-SELECTION OF SERVICE PROVIDER FOR E-SIGNATURE SERVICES
BID NO: GEM/2023/B/3589841 DATED 19/06/2023
The Above GEM Tender document is also available and can be downloaded from the following websites www.iob.in & **www.gem.gov.in**, For Tender details and future amendments, if any, keep referring to the following website **www.gem.gov.in**

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OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, PWD,
DISTRICT DIVISION, PHULERA
No.:- 260 Date:- 07/06/2023
Notice Inviting Bid
Bids for Short Term NIT No. 07/2023-24 of Various 4 Nos. Works are invited from interested bidders upto 13.06.2023 to 22.06.2023. Other particulars of the bid may be visited on the procurement portal (http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in, http://sppp.raj.nic.in) of the state and departmental website. The approximate value of the procurement is Rs. 590.52 Lacs.
1. UBN No. PWD2324WSOB05315
2. UBN No. PWD2324WSOB05316
3. UBN No. PWD2324WSOB05317
4. UBN No. PWD2324WSOB05318
(Dariyab Singh)
Executive Engineer
PWD Distt. Dn. Phulera
DIPR/C/8810

KSEB KERALA STATE ELECTRICITY BOARD LIMITED
EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI)
Kerala State Electricity Board Limited (KSEBL) invites sealed EOI from interested financial entities/Advisers engaged in debt syndication, to refinance its outstanding high cost term loans with fresh Rupee Term Loan and Advisory Services for Debt Syndication. EOI documents containing the scope of work, instruction to bidders, selection criteria, Bid Format etc, can be downloaded from **www.kseb.in.**
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Ref: PR/MC1/F296/ E-Tender /2023 FINANCIAL ADVISER

KOCHI MUNICIPAL CORPORATION
CORPORATION OFFICE, PB.No.1016
ERNAKULAM, KOCHI-682011
No.MOE2A-19063/2023 Date: 20.06.2023
REQUEST FOR QUOTATION
WINDOW NO. C200861/2023
TENDER ID : 2023_LSGD_583146_1
Selection of Operator(s) for Processing and Disposal of Legacy Waste as per MSW Norms at the Existing Dumpsite and Remediation of land at Brahmapuram in Kochi Municipal Corporation
Tender Fee : ₹ 10,000 + GST
EMD : ₹ 50,00,000/-
Pre Bid Meeting : 01.07.2023, 3:00 pm
Last Date for Online Submission : 21.07.2023, 3.00 pm
Date of Opening of Bids : 24.07.2023, 3.00 pm
The bidding document is available online and bids should be submitted online at www.etenders.kerala.gov.in. For further details please visit the Website www.etenders.kerala.gov.in and search the Tender ID.
Sd/-
Superintending Engineer
Kochi Municipal Corporation

कार्यालय अधिशासी अभियन्ता, सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग, खण्ड आसीन्द (भीलवाड़ा)
कमांक-370 दिनांक- 12.06.2023
ई-टेण्डरिंग निविदा सूचना संख्या 03/2023-24
राजस्थान के राज्यपाल महोदय की ओर से बजट घोषणा संख्या 94 वर्ष 2023-24 के तहत नगरीय निकायों के कार्यों हेतु अग्रिम दर संविदा के लिए उपयुक्त श्रेणी में सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग राजस्थान में पंजीकृत संवेदको एवं केन्द्रीय/ राज्य सरकार व उनके अधिकृत संगठनों/ केन्द्रीय लोक निर्माण विभाग/ डाक एवं दूर संचार विभाग/ रेल्वे इत्यादि में पंजीकृत संवेदकों, जो कि राजस्थान सरकार के विभिन्न श्रेणी के संवेदकों के समकक्ष हो, से निर्धारित प्रपत्र में कुल 5 पैकेज/ कार्यों, जिनकी कुल लागत राशि रु. 1036.09 लाख है, के लिए ई-टेन्डरिंग प्रक्रिया हेतु ऑन लाईन निविदाएं आमंत्रित की जाती है।

निविदा फार्म डाउनलोड एवं अपलोड करने की तारीख एवं समय	14.06. 2023 प्रातः 9.30 बजे से 23.06.2023 सायं 06.00 बजे तक

निविदा से सम्बन्धित विवरण वेब साईट http://dipr.rajasthan.gov.in पर एवं निविदा दस्तावेज का विवरण वेबसाईट http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in,एवं http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in पर देखा जा सकता है। सम्पूर्ण निविदा प्रक्रिया http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in पर ऑनलाईन सम्पादित की जायेगी।
NIB No. PWD2324A1019
UBN No. PWD2324WSOB05285, PWD2324WSOB05288, PWD2324WSOB05290, PWD2324WSOB05293
(विजय सिंह मीना)
अधिशासी अभियंता, सा.नि.वि. खण्ड आसीन्द
E-mail:- eeasind.pwd.rajasthan.gov.in
मोबाईल नं.- 9414310758
DIPR/C/8824/2023

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PWD DN SAGWARA
DISTT. DUNGARPUR (RAJ).
No. 574 Date: 09-06-2023
NOTICE INVITING BID NO. 15/2023-24
NIB Code: PWD2324A0979
Bids for Road Construction Work are invited from interested bidders upto 03.07.2023, 06:00 P.M. Other particulars of the bid may be visited on the procurement portal ("http://www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in and http://www.sppp.rajasthan.gov.in) of the state. The approximate value of procurement is Rs. 564.25 Lacs.
NIB: PWD2324A0979
UBN: PWD2324WSOB05053
PWD2324WSOB05055
(गजेन्द्र कुमार लोढ़ा)
अधिशाषी अभियन्ता
सा.नि.वि. खण्ड सागवाडा
DIPR/C/8714/2023

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"All the tenders issued by CIL and its Subsidiaries for procurement of Goods, Works and Services are available on websites of Coal India Ltd. **www.coalindia.in/** respective Subsidiary Company (CMPDI, **www.cmpdi.co.in**), CIL e-procurement portal **https://coalindiatenders.nic.in** and Central Public Procurement Portal **https://eprocure.gov.in**. In addition, procurement is also done through GeM portal **https://gem.gov.in**."

E-mail:- sejprur.pwd@rajasthan.gov.in, E-mail seruraljaipur@gmail.com
कार्यालय अधीक्षण अभियंता, सा.नि.वि., वृत्त- ग्रामीण, जयपुर
पी.डब्ल्यू.डी. कैम्पस, जैकब रोड, जयपुर क्लब के सामने, जयपुर, फोन:- 0141-2223527
अल्पकालीन निविदा सूचना संख्या: 05/2023-24
बजट घोषणा संख्या 94 वर्ष 2023-24 के तहत विभिन्न नगरपालिकाओं एवं नगर हैरिटेज एवं ग्रेटर मे दर संविदा के आधार पर विभिन्न कार्य हेतु इच्छुक निविदादाताओं द्वारा दिनांक 22.06.2023 तक निविदाएं आमन्त्रित की जाती है। निविदा से संबन्धित अन्य विवरण राज्य की उपापन पोर्टल (http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in, http://sppp.raj.nic.in) एवं विभागीय वेबसाईट http://pwd.rajasthan.gov.in पर देखे जा सकते है। उपापन की अनुमानित कुल लागत रुपये रु. 615.00 लाख है।

UBN No.-	PWD2324WSOB05181	PWD2324WSOB05182

अधीक्षण अभियन्ता
DIPR/C/8812/2023 सा.नि.वि. ग्रामीण वृत्त- जयपुर, फोन नं.- 0141-2223527

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GMR Hyderabad International Airport Limited ("GHIAL") invites interested parties to participate in the competitive bidding process for Concession of Food and Beverage outlets at Rajiv Gandhi International Airport ("RGIA"), Hyderabad.
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INBRIEF

Puri Rath Yatra begins, lakhs of people throng the streets

Amid sweltering heat, a sea of devotees on Tuesday surged in the coastal town of Puri to witness the grand spectacle of the Rath Yatra – an annual event in which three deities, Lord Balabhadra, Lord Jagannath and Devi Subhadra, are taken out in their respective chariots from the 12th century Shree Jagannath Temple. Lakhs of people had travelled to the town and occupied every conceivable position to have a glimpse of the deities on their chariots. The festival will go on for nine days. The sibling deities would return from the Mausi Maa temple on the ninth day. The idols will be installed in the Shree Jagannath Temple again before other major rituals.

Amit Agrawal takes charge as CEO of Aadhaar authority

Amit Agrawal, a 1993-batch IAS officer, on Tuesday took charge as Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Unique Identification Authority of India, which administers Aadhaar. Mr. Agrawal, who is from the Chhattisgarh cadre, was earlier an Additional Secretary at the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology. Upto, was an Additional Secretary and Joint Secretary in the Finance Ministry. Mr. Saurabh Garg, the previous CEO, was appointed Secretary of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment in April. In Chhattisgarh, Mr. Agrawal served as the Secretary in charge of the departments of Commercial Tax and Technical Education.

'World's largest Ramayan temple' coming up in Bihar

Work on the "world's largest Ramayan temple" began in East Champaran district in Bihar on Tuesday. A former Indian Police Service (IPS) officer and secretary of the Patna-based Mahavir Temple Trust, Acharya Kishor Kunal, along with former Chief Justice of the Rajasthan High Court Justice S. N. Jha and others, laid the foundation stone. The construction of the three-storey Viraat Ramayan temple will be completed by the end of 2025 at an estimated cost of ₹500 crore. It will be constructed on 3.76 lakh sq. ft of land within the Kaithwalia-Bahuara villages. The temple will have 12 domes.The temple will be 2,800 feet in length, 1,400 feet in width and 405 feet in height.

Zero tolerance for spurious medicines, says Mandaviya

Asserting that India follows a zero tolerance policy on spurious medicines, Union Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya on Tuesday said 71 companies had been issued showcause notices, following concerns raised about reported deaths due to contaminated Indian-made cough syrups. As many as 18 companies had been asked to shut shop. The Minister also said an extensive risk-based analysis was done continuously, and the government and regulators were always alert to ensure that no one died after consuming spurious medicines. "We are the pharmacy of the world and want to assure everyone that we are the 'quality pharmacy of the world'," he said.

Central teams to visit States reeling under heat stress

Health Minister says experts will support them in the public health response to heat-related illnesses; daily surveillance on under the National Programme on Climate Change and Health

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

A team of experts from the Union Health Ministry will visit States such as Uttar Pradesh and Bihar to support them in the public health response to heat-related illnesses, Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya said on Tuesday.

"Several States have been experiencing severe heat conditions for the past few days, and this underscores the importance of sturdy and timely preparedness through awareness and early actions," Mr. Mandaviya said at a meeting on public health preparedness for heatwave management in the country.

He said the Ministry had issued a heatwave advisory earlier this year asking the States to ensure availability of essential medicines, intravenous fluids, oral rehydration salts, drinking water and so on.

Summer distress: Patients and their attendants at the emergency ward of the Ballia District Hospital in Uttar Pradesh on Tuesday.

Daily weather forecast

Mr. Mandaviya said the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) would conduct research on how to minimise the effect of heatwave on health, with action plans for the short, medium and long terms.

The Ministry has asked the India Meteorological Department to issue daily weather forecasts that can be easily interpreted and disseminated.

At the meeting, the Minister was informed that daily surveillance on heat-related illness under the National Programme on Climate Change and Human Health had been ensured in all States and districts on the Integrated Health Information Platform.

The Ministry, in a release, said a national action plan on heat-related illness was released in July 2021 outlining the standard operating procedures for surveillance of heat stroke cases and deaths with a preparedness plan before and during the summer.

"Sensitisation of masses is important, but sensitisation and capacity building of medical officers, health staff and grassroots-level workers on heat-related illness, its early recognition and management is also important," the Health Ministry said.

Childline 1098 to be merged with 112 line in 9 States

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

District Child Protection Unit will be available round the clock to provide outreach service for children in emergency

In a first, the Women and Child Development (WCD) Ministry has decided to do away with the concept of NGOs running Childline (a counselling and distress relief helpline for children) which has been attending to children under emergency since 1995.

In the first phase, the Ministry has merged the 1098 helpline with the 112 Emergency Response Support System (ERSS) in nine States Union Territories where operations will start by June-end. They are Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Bihar, Dadra and Nagar Haveli & Daman & Diu, Gujarat, Goa, Ladakh, Mizoram and Puducherry. The others will be on board in a phased manner, the Ministry official said.

The Ministry officials said the merger was being done as part of the broader vision of "One nation, one helpline". Hence, Childline (1098) is being merged with the ERSS-112.

The Ministry, under the erstwhile Child Protection Services Scheme, was supporting the 24x7 helpline Childline service, through Childline India Foundation (CIF) and its partner NGOs. The CIF had been rendering Childline Services in 568 districts, 135 railway stations and 11 bus stands through its network of 1,000-plus units.

"The response time by the CIF is about 60 minutes to respond to children's distress calls. The current system, however, lacks interoperability with the police, fire and ambulance services which leads to loss of precious time in distress situations," the official said.

The CIF network could cover only 568 districts which had left almost 200 districts uncovered under Childline, which is why the decision of merger of Childline was taken.

Speaking about the detailed Standard Operating Procedures (SoPs) for the merger, the Ministry official said that the States had to ensure a dedicated 24x7 WCD Control Room which will be integrated with the ERSS.

Further, at the district level, the Child Helpline (CHL) unit at the District Child Protection Unit will be available round the clock to provide outreach services for children in crisis, linking them to emergency and long-term care and rehabilitation services.

Helpdesk at stations

The States and Union Territories, as per the SoPs of Railways, would continue setting up child helpdesks or booths at selected railway stations and bus stands.

The Ministry has entrusted the Centre for Development of Advanced Computing, Kerala as a total solution provider for automation of Child Helpline 1098 and its integration with the ERSS-112.

The Ministry official said the incoming calls to 1098 will be classified into three categories: emergency, non-emergency and information calls.

All emergency calls can be forwarded from 1098 to 112 or vice versa at the switch of a button, the Ministry official said.

Tribal mat art woven into Yoga Day this time

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Besides spreading awareness of the benefits of yoga and meditation worldwide, India will be promoting the skill of its tribal artisans this Yoga Day.

The Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India (TRIFED) is collaborating with the Ministry of Ayush to supply 34,000 yoga mats procured exclusively from tribal artisans across the country. These will bear the distinct designs and motifs representative of their respective communities.

Each mat is a vibrant testament to the diverse cultural heritage of India's tribes reflecting their stories, folklore and artistic legacy, said a senior official at the Ministry of Tribal Affairs.

He added that the effort is aimed at bolstering economic prospects of tribal communities. This year's theme of International Day of Yoga is 'Yoga for *Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam*', which indicates Indian socio-cultural heritage. Further, it will witness unique features such as the Ocean Ring of Yoga.

India's first mRNA vaccine against Omicron approved

Jacob Koshy
NEW DELHI

GEMCOVAC-OM, India's first indigenous mRNA vaccine for the Omicron variant of the novel coronavirus, was approved under emergency use guidelines by the Drug Controller General of India (DCGI) late on Monday. This comes a year after the Pune-based Gennova Biopharmaceuticals Ltd. got approval for GEMCOVAC-19 against COVID-19.

Both the vaccines are yet to be commercially available, though Gennova officials said at a press conference on Tuesday that the vaccines were likely to be formally "launched and rolled out" within the next "two to three weeks".

The new vaccine is likely to be rolled out in three weeks. REPRESENTATIVE IMAGE

The company said GEMCOVAC-OM was stable in a 2-8 degrees Celsius range and hence could be stored in ordinary refrigerators. It could be administered into the skin via a "needle-free" PharmaJet system.

Data from clinical trials, which are not public yet but submitted to the DCGI for review, suggested that GENCOVAC-OM had a "greater" safety profile as Covishield and generated more neutralising antibodies, said Gennova CEO Sanjay Singh.

Nearly 2,300 adoptions happen in nine months

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Over 2,297 adoptions took place in India in the past nine months under the amended adoption rules which came into force last September, a senior official from the Women and Child Development Ministry said here on Tuesday.

At present, 2,191 children are available for adoption in India. As many as 30,217 prospective adoptive parents are registered for adoption in India and 984 abroad.

The Ministry's records show 997 cases of adoption had been pending in court when the amended Juvenile Justice Act came into force.

From those cases, most adoptions took place in West Bengal, where 139 were pending and 130 have been cleared.

In Bihar, among the 92 pending adoption cases, 20 remain so.

The data accessed by *The Hindu* show that Maharashtra lags in adoptions because of the Bombay High Court's interim order in implementation of the new rules.

In September 2022, 174 cases were pending in the court in the State.

To be precise, 35 new matters of adoption are pending with the District Magistrates (DM) in Maharashtra and 329 cases are pending at the level of either the Specialised Adoption Agency or the District Child Protection Unit due to the uncertainty created as a result of the interim order of the Bombay High Court.

Under the new adoption rules, as per Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Amendment Act, 2021, the DMs are empowered to give adoption orders. The Act came into force with an aim to prevent court-related delays in the process of adoptions which has created a lot of pendency. The amendments came into effect on September 1, 2022.

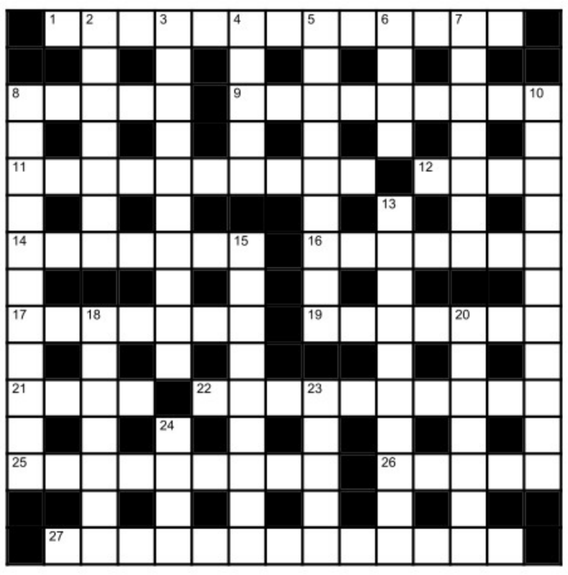
Apart from this, the Act empowers the DMs to independently evaluate the functioning of all the child protection units in the districts along with the child welfare committees, the Juvenile Justice Boards and the specialised juvenile police units.

TH CROSSWORD + 13897

(set by Dr. X)

To solve this puzzle online, get across to our crossword site. @ *https://qrgo.page.link/jjpTn*

SCAN TO PLAY



Across

1 Husband involved in frivolous affair atones to a certain extent (5,1,7)
8 Sailing vessel in diagram, not small (5)
9 Drug consumed for suicide possibly causing sweat (9)
11 Aroused by lust, dame's excited to have sex in retreat (10)
12 Diesel oil in older vehicle (4)
14 Introduces air into a cycle, ready to return (7)
16 One who observes rest going wild after consuming marijuana (7)
17 Reduced sex drive keeps old man in depression (7)
19 Complain about extremely kitschy hotel, exorbitant (3-4)
21 Covet hunks essentially in group going topless (4)
22 Where tossed coin might be is uncertain (2,2,3,3)
25 Longer night out, involved in rebellious fling (9)
26 Nobody in base after lunchtime (2,3)
27 Young person starting to praise group at China involved in revolt (6,7)

Down

2 Starter of fried tater cooked around lunchtime is more oily (7)
3 President disregarded the faux pas made by nationalist - that should clear the air (7,3)
4 Disoriented by a bit of Scotch in beverage (2,3)
5 Communicates with assistants leaving India to catch don (9)
6 Pain in heart and upper limb (4)
7 Unorthodox ball gets fellow bowled in masterstroke (7)
8 Betray a lover's confidence by circulating naked stills (4,3,4)
10 Fee to enter club, beyond reach sadly - about thousand (5,6)
13 Cool hippy performing around noon is many-voiced (10)
15 Big turn! Takes catch by diving finally (9)
18 Drink after receiving flush in card game (5-2)
20 One working alone to save husband having money problems (2,1,4)
23 New woman lacking quality as bridge player (5)
24 Sewing case is quite fancy, no question (4)

SUDOKU

			3	2	4			1
			8				5	4
		4			9	7		
5				3		1	6	
	1	6		9				5
		7	9			5		
3	8				1			
4			5	8	3			

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★☆

No.SS5834 Distribution: www.knightfeatures.com

Solution to previous puzzle

S	O	R	O	C	A	B	A	■	B	R	A	C	E	S
E	■	W	■	O	■	E	■	S	■	O	■	O	■	P
S	T	A	U	N	C	H	■	T	R	O	U	N	C	E
T	■	N	■	A	■	I	■	R	■	K	■	F	■	C
E	L	D	E	R	■	N	E	E	D	S	M	U	S	T
T	■	A	■	T	■	D	■	E	■	■	■	S	■	A
■	■	■	S	I	X	O	F	T	H	E	B	E	S	T
T	■	M	■	S	■	N	■	S	■	N	■	D	■	E
W	E	A	R	T	H	E	P	A	N	T	S	■	■	■
O	■	R	■	■	■	S	■	H	■	H	■	T	■	S
P	E	A	C	E	A	B	L	E	■	E	N	A	C	T
I	■	U	■	M	■	A	■	A	■	O	■	H	■	A
E	N	D	E	M	I	C	■	D	O	G	G	I	N	G
C	■	E	■	E	■	K	■	O	■	E	■	N	■	E
E	R	R	A	T	A	■	P	F	E	N	N	I	G	S

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

3	5	8	4	9	1	6	7	2
7	1	4	2	6	8	9	3	5
6	9	2	5	3	7	1	4	8
2	6	3	8	7	9	4	5	1
5	8	9	1	4	3	2	6	7
4	7	1	6	2	5	3	8	9
1	2	6	7	8	4	5	9	3
9	4	7	3	5	2	8	1	6
8	3	5	9	1	6	7	2	4

FAITH

Alavandar's humility

Alavandar in his Stotra Ratna addresses Lord Narayana as "*abja netra*". This form of addressing Him is dear to the Lord, for *abja netra* means the Lotus-eyed One, and that is one of the distinguishing features of the Lord, said Valayapet Ramachariar in a discourse.

Alavandar tells the Lord that he is unfit to praise Him. This attitude of total humility, this *naichya bhava* is very important when one prays to the Lord, or when one pays one's respects to an Acharya. When one speaks with someone inimical to the Lord, then it is good to speak proudly of one's exposure and abilities. While Alavandar rightly approaches the Lord with humility, he lists his own merits when he is challenged by Akki Azhvan. He is going to debate Akki Azhvan, and at this stage it is imperative that he should speak of his strengths. We find this difference in attitude on different occasions in the case of Hanuman too. Hanuman tells Ravana proudly that he is the messenger of Lord Rama. He (Hanuman) cannot be subdued by anyone, not even a demon, he says. In Sri Vaishnava tradition, when one refers to the abode of an Acharya, one calls it a palace, even if it is an ordinary place of residence. And when one is talking of one's own house, one must refer to it as a mere hut, even if it is palatial.

Having acknowledged his own shortcomings in praising the Lord, Alavandar then adds that because of these very shortcomings, he is deserving of the Lord's *daya*. Alavandar speaks of *sulabha srama*, meaning that his (Alavandar's) efforts to praise the Lord will weaken, and he will tire out trying to praise the Lord. All the more reason why he needs the Lord's *daya*, he says.

LAHORE

Pakistan court issues non-bailable arrest warrants for Imran Khan

REUTERS

A Pakistan court issued non-bailable warrants for the arrest of Imran Khan in two cases related to arson during the May 9 violence following his arrest in a corruption case. The police registered two FIRs against Mr. Khan and PTI leaders on charges of attacking and torching a ruling PML-N party office and a container. PTI

KABUL

Afghan Taliban carry out second public execution since takeover

AP

A convicted murderer was shot dead at the grounds of a mosque in Afghanistan, the second public execution since the Taliban returned to power in 2021. Though public executions were common during the Taliban's first rule from 1996 to 2001, the only other one they have carried out since returning to power was in last December. AFP

DOHA

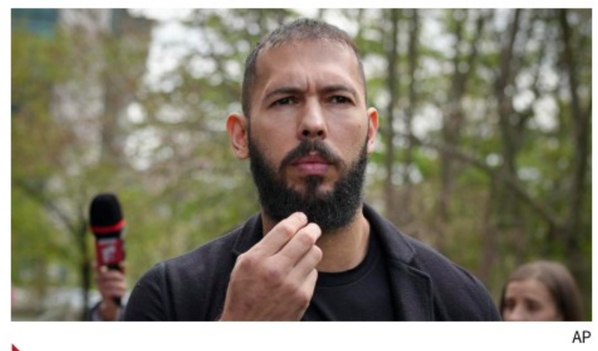
Qatar agrees to second long-term gas supply agreement with China

REUTERS

Qatar announced a second 27-year supply deal with a Chinese company as it expands production from the world's biggest natural gas field. The agreement, to supply four million tonnes annually to the China National Petroleum Corporation, matches the terms of a November deal with Sinopec as the longest ever in the industry. AFP

BUCHAREST

Influencer Andrew Tate indicted for human trafficking in Romania



AP

Online influencer Andrew Tate, his brother and two women were indicted in Romania on human trafficking and rape charges. The police arrested Tate, 36, and his brother Tristan, 34, and the two Romanian women late last year. Under preventive detention at first, they were placed under house arrest at the end of March. AFP

Kyiv set to use Western arms in Crimea, warns Russia

Agence France-Presse
MOSCOW

Moscow claimed on Tuesday that Ukrainian forces were planning to use Western-supplied missiles to strike targets inside Russia and the annexed peninsula of Crimea, threatening "immediate retaliation."

"The leadership of Ukraine's armed forces plans to strike Russian territory, including Crimea, with HIMARS and Storm Shadow missiles," Defence Minister Sergei Shoigu said during a meeting with military officials.

Mr. Shoigu warned of swift retaliation in the event the weapons were used to strike targets inside Russia or on the Black Sea territory that Moscow annexed in 2014.

U.S. urges China for military talks despite rebuff to Blinken

White House says establishing military-to-military communications is essential to reduce friction between the two global powers; Beijing cites Washington's sanctions as an obstacle for dialogue

Reuters
BEIJING

The U.S. on Tuesday pressed its call for military communication channels with China despite that request being rebuffed during Secretary of State Antony Blinken's trip to Beijing over the weekend.

Establishing military-to-military communications was essential to reduce frictions between the two global powers, Sarah Beran, White House National Security Council senior director for China and Taiwan Affairs, told reporters in a briefing about the trip.

"This is an absolutely critical way for us to manage competition, crisis communication, ensure that there is not miscommunication or misperception about each other's intentions," Ms. Beran said. "We remain willing and able at all levels to meet and call on China to respond appropriately to that."

Eye to eye: Antony Blinken, left, meets with Xi Jinping in the Great Hall of the People in Beijing on Monday. REUTERS

During Mr. Blinken's visit, the first to China by a U.S. Secretary of State since 2018, the nations agreed to temper rivalries to avoid conflict but there were no breakthroughs.

China cited U.S. sanctions as an obstacle to military dialogue which Mr. Blinken said he had repeatedly raised with his hosts and would continue to push for. Chinese Defence Minister Li Shangfu has been sanctioned since 2018 over the purchase of combat aircraft and equipment from Russia.

Speaking at the same briefing call on Tuesday, the U.S. State Department's top diplomat for East Asia Daniel Kritenbrink said a successful and responsible management of the U.S.-China relationship will only be possible if it is a "two-way street".

Biden's son charged with possessing illegal weapon

Associated Press
WASHINGTON

U.S. President Joe Biden's son Hunter has been charged with failing to pay federal income tax and illegally possessing a weapon and has reached an agreement with the Justice Department, according to a letter filed in U.S. District Court in Delaware.

As part of the agreement, made public on Tuesday, Hunter Biden will plead guilty to misdemeanour tax offenses and is expected to reach an agreement with prosecutors on the felony charge of illegally possessing a firearm as a drug user.

It is somewhat unusual to resolve a federal criminal case at the same time the charges are filed in court, though it is not totally unheard of.

Hunter Biden

The deal ends a long-running Justice Department investigation into Mr. Biden's second son, who has acknowledged struggling with addiction following the 2015 death of his brother Beau Biden.

It also averts a trial that would have generated days or weeks of distracting newspapaer headlines for a White House that has strenuously sought to keep its distance from the Justice Department.

Christopher Clark, a lawyer for the younger Biden, said in a statement that it was his understanding that the five-year investigation had now been resolved.

Taking responsibility

"I know Hunter believes it is important to take responsibility for these mistakes he made during a period of turmoil and addiction in his life," Mr. Clark said. "He looks forward to continuing his recovery and moving forward."

The news comes as congressional Republicans pursue their own investigations into nearly every facet of Hunter Biden's business dealings, including examining foreign payments and other aspects of his finances.

Balancing act: Li Qiang, left, and Olaf Scholz arrive to brief the media following government consultations in Berlin on Tuesday. AP

Chinese Premier holds talks with German Chancellor

Agence France-Presse
BERLIN

Chancellor Olaf Scholz hosted Premier Li Qiang for talks on Tuesday, seeking to recalibrate cooperation between Germany and China after Berlin branded Beijing a "systemic rival".

Mr. Li is on his first trip abroad since he was named Premier in March.

But unlike previous visits by Chinese dignitaries, when German leaders eager to expand business partnerships with the Asian giant rolled out the red carpet, Mr. Li's trip comes as Germany is rushing to diversify its trading partners.

Burned by its reliance on Russian gas and hurt by supply chain disruptions during the pandemic, Germany is intensifying its efforts to "de-risk" from China.

Berlin's security pact

When the two leaders sit down for talks, Germany's first national security strategy, published days ago, will set the tone.

The blueprint accused China of acting against German interests, putting international security "under increasing pressure" and disregarding human rights.

Tourist submersible on Titanic expedition missing for third day

Reuters

The vessel, with five persons onboard, could stay under water for up to 96 hours

A submersible taking wealthy tourists to visit the site of the Titanic wreckage in deep waters off the coast of Canada was missing for a third day on Tuesday, as U.S. and Canadian ships and planes swept a huge area trying to find the vessel.

One pilot and four passengers were on board the submersible that went missing on Sunday, the U.S. Coast Guard said, adding the vessel could stay underwater for up to 96 hours, although it was unclear if it had resurfaced but was unable to communicate.

Those aboard the submersible called *Titan*, the highlight of a tourist expedition that costs $250,000 per person, included British billionaire Hamish Harding and Pakistani businessman Shahzada Dawood with his son Suleman.

The 77-year-old French explorer Paul-Henri Nargeolet and Stockton Rush, founder and CEO of the vessel's U.S.-based operating company OceanGate, were also reported to be on board.

Search operation

U.S. and Canadian ships and planes began swarming the area on Monday about 1,450 km east of Cape Cod, some dropping sonar buoys that can monitor to a depth of 3,962 metres, U.S. Coast Guard Rear Admiral John Mauger said.

"It is a remote area and it is a challenge to conduct a search in that remote area," he said. He said officials had asked commercial vessels to help.

The wreckage of the Titanic that sank in 1912 after hitting an iceberg lies at about 3,810 metres. The *Titan* submersible usually takes two hours to descend to the wreck.

Palestinian attacker kills four in West Bank

Associated Press
JERUSALEM

The shooting comes a day after an Israeli military raid killed six Palestinians in a Jenin refugee camp

A Palestinian attacker opened fire at a gas station near an Israeli settlement in the West Bank on Tuesday, killing at least four persons and wounding several others, Israeli medics said, as violence continued to roil the occupied territory.

The shooting underscored the fragility of the situation in the West Bank, where on Monday an Israeli military raid into the northern Jenin refugee camp ignited some of the fiercest Israeli-Palestinian fighting seen in years, killing six Palestinians. Militants targeted Israeli military vehicles with roadside bombs and Israeli forces deployed helicopter gunships to evacuate stranded troops.

Spike in violence

The intense surge in violence has killed 126 Palestinians and 24 people on the Israeli side so far this year, prompting many on either side of the conflict to fear a possible greater conflagration.

Israeli security forces said they shot the gunman and were still searching for other attackers near the Jewish settlement of Eli north of the Palestinian city of Ramallah.

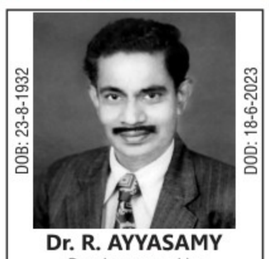
The condition of the attacker was not immediately clear.

The Palestinian militant groups Hamas and Islamic Jihad praised the attack as a response to the Israeli military raid on Monday, but stopped short of claiming responsibility.

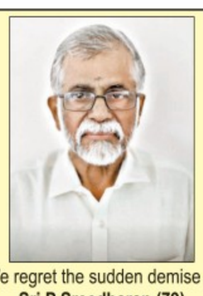
OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE

DEATH

DOB: 23-8-1932 DOD: 18-6-2023



Dr. R. AYYASAMY
Deeply mourned by
Family members, Relatives & Friends



We regret the sudden demise of
Sri P Sreedharan (79)
of Mancomp Overseas Education,
on June 20, 2023.
Last rites to be held on June 22nd (Thursday) before noon.
Mourned by family & friends
Wife - Sharada Sreedharan
Daughter- Raakhee
Son - Bipin
Son in Law - Sathish
Grandchildren - Adhwaith and Janaki
S1, 2nd Floor, Shakti Apartments,
5th Sector, 21st street,
Dr Ramaswamy Salai,
KK Nagar West, Chennai-600078
Mob : +919791070540

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES

7th Death Rememberance

Late Mrs.Anupama Vasant,
Ex HOD - GSV Bidar
DOB: 20-04-1968 - DOD: 21-06-2016
Life has never been the same & normal since you left us.
Bereaving
Dr Satyendra, Dr Ishan, Dr Shilpa, Abhigyan, Swati, Shubhangi, Mishka

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public are informed that my client has intent to purchase all that piece and parcel of Land bearing **Residential Site No.7** BBMP Municipal Katha No. 7/1/7 formed in converted Sy no.7/1, measuring 1 acre 11 Guntas, vide conversion ALN (KRPH) SR/64/2014-15, measuring East to West 40 feet, North to South 62 feet, in all 2480 Square feet, situated K.Narayanapura K.R.Puram Hobli, Bangalore East Bangalore, and Bounded on East by: Site no.6, West by: Site No.8, North by: Road, South by: Private property, from it's present Owners 1.Mr. M.Somashekar, & 2. Mr.B.Rupesh Kumar they have acquired the same through 09-11-2015,bearing ,document No.BNS-1-11766-2015-2016 of Book-1, Stored in C.D. No.BNSD,392, Registered in the office of the Sub-Registrar Banasawadi Bangalore East Taluk, Bangalore. My client Mr. Sri.Naveen Kumar Thirumenahalli Purushotham, S/o.Late, A.K.Purushotham Reddy, aged about 40 years, at No. 2012, Wing 2, first floor, Mykonos Shobha City, Hegde Nagar Bangalore North, Bangalore, has entered into agreement of sale dated 16/6/2023, with site owners. Persons having any right over the said property may lodge their objections/ claims with, documentary evidence within 7 days from this day to the undersigned. In the absence of any claims within the above said period. it shall be deemed that there are no such claims or that if there are any claims and they have not been made, it shall be deemed to have been waived.

G.M.JAGADEESH, Advocate,
No. 65,Shree Sai Krupa BDS Ngara,
K.Narayanapura,K.R.Puram Bangalore
East Bangalore –560 077,
M: 9900955654

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public are informed that my client has intent to purchase all that piece and parcel of Land bearing **Residential Site No.8** BBMP Municipal Katha No. 7/1/8 formed in converted Sy no.7/1, measuring 1 acre 11 Guntas, vide conversion ALN (KRPH) SR/64/2014-15, measuring East to West 40 feet, North to South 62 feet, in all 2480 Square feet, situated, K.Narayanapura K.R.Puram Hobli, Bangalore East Bangalore and Bounded on:- East by : Site no.7,West by : Site No.9, North by: Road, South by: Private property,, from it's present Owners 1.Mr. M.Somashekar & 2. Mr.B.Rupesh Kumar they have acquired the same through 09-11-2015,bearing document No.BNS-1-11766-2015-2016 of Book -1, Stored in C.D. No.BNSD,392, Registered in the office of the Sub-Registrar Banasawadi Bangalore East Taluk, Banaglore. My client Mr. Sri.Naveen Kumar Thirumenahalli Purushotham, S/o.Late, .K.Purushotham Reddy, Aged about 40 years, at No. 2012, Wing 2, first floor, Mykonos Shobha city, Hegde Nagar Bangalore North. Bangalore, has entered into agreement of sale dated 16/6/2023, with site owners Persons having any right over the said property may lodge their objections/claims with, documentary evidence within 7 days from this day to the undersigned. In the absence of any claims within the above said period. it shall be deemed that there are no such claims or that if there are any claims and they have not been made, it shall be deemed to have been waived.

G.M.JAGADEESH Advocate,
No. 65,Shree Sai Krupa BDS Nagara,
K.Narayanapura, K.R.Puram Bangalore
East Bangalore –560 077 M: 9900955654

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Office of the Principal Director,
Karnataka State Audit and Accounts Department
3rd Floor, `A' Block, TTMC Building, K.H. Road,
Shanthinagara, Bengaluru-560 027.
Phone No: 080- 22214817, Fax No: 080 22216500
E-mail: controllerstateaccounts@yahoo.com
controllerksaad@gmail.com

No: Ra.Le.Pa. 04 Pra.Tend.Ja 2023-24 Date: 20.06.2023

TENDER NOTIFICATION

Tenders are invited for providing the service of System Analyst, Data Entry Operators, Drivers and Group 'D' personnel to Karnataka State Audit and Accounts Department (KSA&AD) offices- Head Office Bangalore, Regional Office Bangalore and Local Audit Circle Bangalore office Department, on annual rate contract basis.

(1) EMD Amount: **2,70,000/-. (2)** Tender Publishing **Date: 20.06.2023 (Upto 4:00 p.m.). (3)** Last Date & Time for submission of Bid: **14.07.2023 at 4:00 p.m. (4)** Date & Time for opening of Technical Bid : **15.07.2023 at 4:00 p.m. and** Commercial Bid: **20.07.2023 at 4:00 p.m.**

Sd/- Deputy Director, Karnataka State Audit & Accounts Department, Bengaluru.

DIPR/CP/RO317/AAPL/2023-24

Karnataka Forest Development Corporation Limited, Shivamogga Division, Shivamogga.
(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
Office of The Divisional Manager, Shivamogga Division,
Near Shivamogga R.T.O. Office, Shivamogga – 577201
e-mail: dmkfdcsmg@gmail.com Ph.: 08182-222122
No.: K.F.D.C.L./DM/Sh/S-2/2023-24/152 Date: 17.06.2023

"e"-Tender Notice

e-Tender is invited from eligible/interested contractors for providing personnel on outsource basis from Human Resource providers with Minimum Wage and Statutory Payments sanctioned for the Financial Year 2023-24 and 2024-25 (For two years).

Sl. No.	Name of the Office	Details of Services	Numbers
1	Shivamogga Divisional Office, Shivamogga	Data Entry Operator	01
		Tally Operator	01
		Scripting Assistant	01
		Security Guards	01
		Drivers	01
		Dozer Operator	02
		Plantation Security Guards	41
		total	**48**

Approx. Amount: Rs. 220.00 Lakhs **Total Security Deposit:** Rs. 11,00,000.00 **E.M.D. Amount (2.5% on Approx. Amount):** Rs.5,50,000.00 Submit EMD Declaration Form **Tender website:** http://www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in

Last date for obtaining information on Tender conditions and other details: 06.07.2023, 17.30 hrs.

Last date for submission of Tender:07.07.2023,17.30 hrs.

Date of opening Financial Bid:11.07.2023, 17.30 hrs.

For further details visit "e" portal website http://www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in or contact the phone no. of this office (08182) 222122 or at the above address during office hours.

Sd/- On behalf of Karnataka Forest Development Corporation Limited,Divisional Manager, Shivamogga.

DIPR/smg/No.33/06/ksmca/23-24/98

INBRIEF

Eddie Wu to succeed Daniel Zhang as Alibaba Group CEO

Alibaba Group on Tuesday said Eddie Yongming Wu, chairman of its Taobao and Tmall Group, will succeed Daniel Zhang as CEO in the e-com giant's biggest executive reshuffle since its restructuring. Mr. Zhang will shift to focus on cloud intelligence. Mr. Zhang has been, since December, concurrently serving as group CEO and chairman as well as head of its cloud unit. Joseph Tsai, currently executive vice chairman, will succeed Mr. Zhang as group chairman. REUTERS

'BEL bagged orders worth ₹5,900 crore in Q1 FY24'

Bharat Electronics Ltd. (BEL) on Tuesday said it had bagged orders worth ₹5,900 crore in the first quarter of FY24. The biggest order (₹3,914 crore) came from Bharat Dynamics for 2 Regiments of Improved Akash Weapon System with upgrades. BEL also received other orders valued at ₹1,984 crore for Shakti EW & Sanket MK III (Naval Systems), GBMES & GBVU Com Jammer systems, MKBT systems, IFF-MK-XII Crypto Modules and upgradation of SDP & Display of Rohini Radar.

Pet food firm Drools raises $60 million from L Catterton

Bengaluru-based Drools Pet Food said it had raised $60 million from L Catterton (LVMH), a consumer growth investor from the U.S. The funds amount to 10% valuation of Drools, making it one of the largest investments till date in the pet care industry in India, the firm said. Drools currently has a wide portfolio of dog and cat food brands. With fresh funds, the company said it has plans to ramp up production capacity and strengthen distribution network globally.

NaBFID eyes ₹60,000 crore loan book by March 2024

Infrastructure lender is also looking to sanction ₹1 lakh crore loans this fiscal, to both greenfield as well as brownfield assets in the key infrastructure space, says Managing Director Rajkiran Rai G

Press Trust of India
MUMBAI

National Bank for Financing Infrastructure & Development (NaBFID) aims to disburse about ₹60,000 crore by the end of this fiscal, having lent ₹8,000 crore already in the first quarter, a top official said.

The government-backed infrastructure financier, which began operations less than a year ago, is also looking to sanction ₹1 lakh crore loans this fiscal to both greenfield as well as brownfield assets in the key infrastructure space, Rajkiran Rai G, MD, told PTI on Tuesday, after listing its maiden ₹10,000-crore bonds on the BSE.

Last week, the lender raised ₹10,000 crore through debt issuance, which received close to five times or bids worth ₹23,629.50 crore against a base issue of ₹5,000 crore.

NaBFID is offering 7.43% on the unsecured non-convertible debt securities of 10-year tenor. This is the largest debt issuance by a national-level institution.

"We had disbursed ₹18,000 crore last fiscal and... hope to close the year with around ₹60,000 crore of loan book," Mr. Rai said exuding confidence in the interest in the country's infrastructure.

Funding infra

Government-backed National Bank for Financing Infrastructure & Development has lent ₹8,000 crore already in the first quarter

- Infrastructure lender listed its maiden ₹10,000 cr. bonds on the BSE on Tuesday
- NaBFID's debt issuance received bids worth ₹23,629.50 cr. against a base issue of ₹5,000 cr.
- The lender is banking on the institutional investor interest in the country's infrastructure

SBI MD Janakiraman named RBI Dy. Governor

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet has selected State Bank of India MD Swaminathan Janakiraman for the post of a Deputy Governor in the Reserve Bank of India.

He will have a tenure of three years from the date of joining or hold the post till further orders, whichever is earlier.

He will succeed Deputy Governor M.K. Jain whose tenure will end this month. Mr. Jain, who was with IDBI Bank and Indian Bank, was appointed to the critical RBI role in 2018.

MARKETS

MARKET WATCH

	TUESDAY	% CHANGE
Sensex	63,328	0.25
US Dollar	82.09	-0.18
Gold	60,110	-0.05
Brent oil	75.02	-1.45

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Enter	2414.80	13.40
Adani Ports	737.80	2.15
Apollo Hosp	5162.05	17.05
Asian Paints	3318.70	9.00
Axis Bank	974.85	9.20
Bajaj Auto	4662.00	64.65
Bajaj Finserv	1521.05	-20.90
Bajaj Finance	7248.80	-137.40
Bharti Airtel	831.20	3.05
BPCL	372.45	-2.30
Britannia Ind	5056.45	35.40
Cipla	1011.15	-0.10
Coal India	227.25	0.10
Divis Lab	3566.20	-18.55
Dr Reddys Lab	4901.20	22.20
Eicher Motors	3562.10	65.45
Grasim Ind	1769.10	7.80
HCL Tech	1168.65	31.10
HDFC	2658.55	3.75
HDFC Bank	1607.50	3.35
HDFC Life	643.70	17.15
Hero MotoCorp	2800.70	18.10
Hindalco	428.95	2.80
Hind Unilever	2676.10	-7.15
ICICI Bank	925.55	2.40
IndusInd Bank	1298.40	-3.00
Infosys	1303.40	9.40
ITC	452.85	-0.75
JSW Steel	773.15	1.50
Kotak Bank	1844.00	19.45
L&T	2382.00	15.65
M&M	1396.45	-6.10
Maruti Suzuki	9492.10	-39.90
NestleIndia	22955.55	160.70
NTPC	187.50	1.65
ONGC	157.25	-0.55
PowerGrid Corp	248.75	5.65
Reliance Ind	2557.10	5.30
SBI Life	1295.35	14.85
State Bank	567.40	-1.45
Sun Pharma	991.95	-9.85
TataConsumerProduct	858.90	1.90
Tata Motors	583.25	17.20
Tata Steel	114.25	0.15
TCS	3227.70	17.30
Tech Mahindra	1107.35	13.75
Titan	2974.00	5.40
UltraTech Cement	8243.45	-25.15
UPL	683.45	-2.15
Wipro	382.50	2.35

EXCHANGE RATES

Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on June 20

CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	81.92	82.24
Euro	89.53	89.88
British Pound	104.55	104.97
Japanese Yen (100)	57.93	58.16
Chinese Yuan	11.41	11.46
Swiss Franc	91.26	91.62
Singapore Dollar	61.01	61.26
Canadian Dollar	61.99	62.23
Malaysian Ringitt	17.65	17.72
Australian Dollar	55.64	55.87

Source:Indian Bank

Telecom regulator suggests norms for undersea cables

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) issued recommendations on rules for undersea cables connecting Indian telecom networks to the global Internet.

The Department of Telecommunications had sought TRAI's inputs on a specific concern: whether Indian firms without a major stake in undersea cables, usually built by high-powered global consortia, be allowed to apply for clearances acting alone.

To this, TRAI recommended all Indian telcos operating undersea cables be required to submit proof that they own at least the part of undersea cables that is in Indian waters. TRAI also suggested drawing a distinction between a cable landing station and so-called 'points of presence' to which the station is further connected.

Owners of the latter type of facility wouldn't have to apply for several clearances, but would need to comply with lawful interception requirements.

Permit 'dark fibre'

TRAI also submitted 'dark fibre' should be permitted on existing cable landing stations, and 'stubs' – short cables in Indian waters for potential future expansion – be permitted.

Finally, the regulator suggested undersea cables be notified as critical information infrastructure, and thus, benefit from protection by the National Critical Information Infrastructure Protection Centre.

AI set to eliminate digital drudgery: IBM

Mini Tejaswi
BENGALURU

Generative AI is set to eliminate digital drudgery, said Gaurav Sharma, VP, IBM India Software Labs.

"However, focus should be on deploying trustworthy and ethical AI," he said.

Transparency, 'explainability,' robustness, privacy and fairness were the five key properties critical for any AI deployment.

To ease the concerns of enterprises regarding AI and enable them deploy enterprise-ready and trustworthy AI, IBM has introduced watsonx, a AI and data platform that provides accurate, scalable, and adaptable AI for business. "It will empower enterprises to leverage the full potential of AI throughout their operations, utilising data from any source and unlocking new levels of productivity, performance and speed," Mr. Sharma claimed.

Gaurav Sharma

'Pharma exports may touch $28 bn in FY24'

Press Trust of India
HYDERABAD

Pharma exports may touch $28 billion during the current fiscal against $25.39 billion in FY23, Udaya Bhaskar, Director General of Pharmaceuticals Export Promotion Council of India (Pharmexcil), a body under the Department of Commerce said on Tuesday.

Speaking to reporters here he said during the current fiscal the exports clocked more than 10% and 0.7% growth in April and may respectively.

"In FY23, we exported $25.39 billion worth of pharma goods with 3.25% growth," Mr. Bhaskar said replying to a query.

KVB to tweak model of business: MD Babu

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

Private sector lender Karur Vysya Bank Ltd. (KVB) has started making changes to the model of business to sustain growth, MD & CEO B. Ramesh Babu said.

"We are a 106-year-old bank and have been paying dividends continuously, except for the COVID-19 year due to a RBI advisory," Mr. Babu told the media. "For the last two years, we have started making changes to asset and liability sides."

"Earlier, only the branch used to be the main channel for mobilising loans or deposits," he said.

"Now, we have created a retail liability sales force for mobilising current and savings accounts.

Named 'Feet On Street,' the bank, on a pilot basis, has employed 500 people in the last three months with plans to recruit 800 more in 18 months. Their main responsibility would be acquiring new accounts, servicing existing customers and making recoveries.

B. Ramesh Babu

For FY24, KVB is aiming at a growth of more than 14% in credit and deposits and maintain net interest margin at more than 4%.

The Yarn Bazaar raises ₹15 cr. from investors

The Hindu Bureau
COIMBATORE

The Yarn Bazaar, a virtual marketplace for yarn, has raised ₹ 15 crore in a pre-series A round.

The investment was led by Rajiv Dadlini group and Equanimity Ventures.

A press release said the funds would be deployed to strengthen the firm's leadership team, expand operations and build technology infrastructure.

Since its inception in 2018, the platform has completed transactions worth ₹370 crore, said Founder-CEO Pratik Gadia.

The platform had tie-ups with three NBFCs to provide financial support to textile mills, he added.

TCS levy: Credit card users may have to file declaration to issuer

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

The tax department is considering a proposal under which credit card holders will have to file a declaration with the issuer entity within a stipulated time, specifying the nature of expenses incurred in foreign currency for the purpose of TCS levy, sources said.

The I-T department is in talks with the RBI and other stakeholders to firm up a mechanism for distinguishing whether the expense is towards medical/education which attract a 5% TCS or for other purposes on which a 20% Tax Collection at Source (TCS) would be levied, they added.

According to sources, discussions are veering around giving additional time to taxpayers for filing declaration to the credit card issuer bank specifying the nature of expenditure from July 1 – the date from which the new TCS proposal will come into force.

The tax department will issue a detailed FAQ on modalities for levy of TCS at the specified rate.

Beginning next month, overseas expenses on credit cards exceeding ₹7 lakh would be subject to a 20% TCS levy.

DBS Bank India FY23 net profit rises 37%

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

DBS Bank India Ltd. reported net profit for the year ended March rose 37% year-on-year to ₹228 crore, driven by strong retail and corporate banking performance.

Business momentum continued to remain healthy, with an overall deposit growth of 25% and a 10% increase in customer assets to ₹50,701 crore.

Revenue rises 16%

Net revenue grew by 16% to ₹3,351 crore while stable income (net interest income and fee income) grew by 18% to ₹3,068 crore, the wholly owned arm of DBS Bank said.

Surojit Shome

Gross non-performing assets (GNPA) slid to 5.61% from 9.5% and net NPA ratio to 1.17% from 1.61%.

"We continued to make meaningful strides towards improving our business momentum, asset quality and the depth of our talent," MD & CEO Surojit Shome said.

BIG RELIEF

Martina Navratilova announces she is clear of cancer

Martina Navratilova announced that she is clear of cancer. She shared the news on Monday on Twitter after what she said was a full day of tests at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center. "Thank you to all the doctors, nurses, proton and radiation magicians, etc. What a relief!" she wrote.

COMEBACK QUEEN

Venus Williams pulls off surprise win at Birmingham Classic

Venus Williams upset 48th-ranked Camile Giorgi 7-6(5), 4-6, 7-6(6) at the Birmingham Classic on Monday. The seven-time Grand Slam champion and five-time winner at Wimbledon was out for six months because of a hamstring injury. "I haven't played a lot of matches, and it's great to come through," said the 43-year-old.

CALLING IT QUITS

Injury forces Anett Kontaveit to retire at 27 after Wimbledon

Estonian Anett Kontaveit, who reached No. 2 in the world last year, said she is retiring at the age of 27 due to a degenerative back injury and will play her final tournament at Wimbledon next month. The 79th-ranked Kontaveit's best performance in a Major was a quarterfinal at the 2020 Australian Open.

GOOD LUCK

Germany unveils a teddy bear as mascot for Euro 2024

The mascot for next year's European Championship in Germany will be a teddy bear and it made its first appearance on Tuesday morning in Gelsenkirchen. Fans will help name it by choosing between Albart, Barnardo, Barnheart or Herzi von Bar. Bar is the German word for bear.

Cummins and Lyon star as Australia pulls off a heist

With 54 runs needed and two wickets remaining, the duo steers the visitors home in a thrilling finish; Khawaja weathers the early storm with a resolute knock after a rainy start to a riveting final day

THE ASHES

Reuters
BIRMINGHAM

Australia won a thrilling Ashes opener by two wickets at Edgbaston on Tuesday as captain Pat Cummins' 44 not out and Usman Khawaja's patient 65 combined to give England's "Bazball" cricket revolution a lesson.

Cummins hit two sixes and four fours, and shared a match-winning ninth-wicket partnership of 55 with Nathan Lyon (16 not out) in the last hour of the final day.

Chasing a target of 281, Cummins hit the winning boundary against Ollie Robinson – which Harry Brook failed to stop at the rope – and Australia finished on 282 for eight to disappoint a raucous crowd that sensed another memorable victory at the Birmingham ground after a two-run win in the second Ashes Test in 2005.

Devastated

"We are, of course, absolutely devastated," England captain Ben Stokes said.

"The lads are in pieces up there. But if that's not attracting people to the game we love then I don't know what will."

Jubilant and possibly surprised Australian fans at the stadium chanted "Aussie, Aussie, Aussie, Oi, Oi, Oi" after their team's remarkable win.

Khawaja, who hit his first Test century in England in the first innings, faced 197 deliveries as he anchored most of Australia's successful run chase before being dismissed by Stokes. Khawaja was taking the game away from England with Australia at 209 for six but Stokes' fiery delivery was hit onto his stumps by the batter.

Eight wickets down, Australia was still chasing the win – with very good reason as it turned out – and Cummins smashed Joe Root, who was bowling spin while Moeen Ali was nursing a hurt spinning finger, for two sixes in the 83rd over.

England delayed taking the new ball at 227 for seven and it worked perfectly as Root claimed Alex Carey (20) to make the score 227 for eight, with Australia still needing 54 runs.

Cummins and Lyon then came to the crease and never left it.

Onus on England

England must win the five-match series to retake the Ashes from Australia.

The morning session was lost to rain and players took an early lunch.

Australia takes the bragging rights into the second Test at Lord's but both teams achieved their aim of making the series opener a showpiece for the longer format of the game as it fights to keep players and TV viewers from focusing on franchise cricket.

We've done it! Cummins and Lyon are ecstatic after accomplishing the mission which was put on track by Khawaja. GETTY IMAGES

Batting on all five days
M.L. Jaisimha: *20* & 74* (Ind vs Aus), Eden Gardens, 1960
Geoffrey Boycott: *107 & 80** (Eng vs Aus), Nottingham, 1977
Kim Hughes: *117 & 84* (Aus vs Eng), Lord's, 1980
Allan Lamb: *23 & 110* (Eng vs WI), Lord's, 1984
Ravi Shastri: *111 & 7** (Ind vs Eng), Eden Gardens, 1984
Adrian Griffith: *114 & 18* (WI vs NZ), Hamilton, 1999
Andrew Flintoff: *70 & 51* (Eng vs Ind), Mohali, 2006
Alviro Petersen: *156 & 39* (SA vs NZ), Wellington, 2012
Cheteshwar Pujara: *52 & 22* (Ind vs SL), Eden Gardens, 2017
Rory Burns: *133 & 11* (Eng vs Aus), Birmingham, 2019
Kraigg Brathwaite: *182 & 25* (WI vs Zim), Bulawayo, 2023
Tagenarine Chanderpaul: *207* & 15* (WI vs Zim), Bulawayo, 2023
Usman Khawaja: *141 & 65* **(Aus vs Eng), Birmingham, 2023**

SCOREBOARD

England — 1st innings: 393 for eight decl. in 78 overs.
Australia — 1st innings: 386 in 116.1 overs.
England — 2nd innings: 273 in 66.2 overs.
Australia — 2nd innings (Target 281): Usman Khawaja (batting) 56, David Warner c Bairstow b Robinson 36, Marnus Labuschagne c Bairstow b Broad 13, Steve Smith c Bairstow b Broad 6, Scott Boland c Bairstow b Broad 20, Travis Head c Root b Moeen 16, Cameron Green (batting) 22; Extras (lb-6, nb-8): 14; Total (for five wkts. in 59 overs **at tea**): 183.
Fall of wickets: 1-61, 2-78, 3-89, 4-121, 5-143.
England bowling: Anderson 17-1-56-0, Broad 16-3-42-3, Robinson 10-3-27-1, Moeen 13-2-50-1, Root 3-1-2-0
Australia — 2nd innings (Target 281): Usman Khawaja b Stokes 65, David Warner c Bairstow b Robinson 36, Marnus Labuschagne c Bairstow b Broad 13, Steve Smith c Bairstow b Broad 6, Scott Boland c Bairstow b Broad 20, Travis Head c Root b Moeen 16, Cameron Green b Robinson 28, Alex Carey c & b Root 20, Pat Cummins (not out) 44, Nathan Lyon (not out) 16; Extras (lb-10, nb-8): 18; Total (for eight wkts. in 92.3 overs): 282,
Fall of wickets: 1-61, 2-78, 3-89, 4-121, 5-143, 6-192, 7-209, 8-227.
England bowling: Anderson 17-1-56-0, Broad 21-3-64-3, Robinson 18.3-7-43-2, Moeen 14-2-57-1, Root 15-2-43-1, Stokes 7-2-9-1.
Player-of-the-match: Khawaja.
Australia won by two wickets to lead five-Test series 1-0.
Second Test: June 28 to July 2 (Lord's).

Vishal lifts silver at Special Olympics

ANI
BERLIN

The Indian contingent won its first medal of this year's Special Olympics with T. Vishal clinching a silver in powerlifting.

The 16-year-old from Puducherry won a silver in men's squat (122.50kg), deadlift (155 kg), bench press (85 kg) and combined to put India on the board.

Encouraged by his parents to pursue sports, Vishal's interest was kindled after watching the Paralympics Games.

On the track, 800m runners Asheef Malanur (Level B), Soham Rajput (Level C) and Geetanjali Nagvekar (Level D) reached the final while Libin Mallika Rajakumar (Level B) made it to the final in 200m. The men's 4x400m team too reached the final. Six of the 11 Indian swimmers entered the final.

Defending champion India locks horns with practice-starved Pakistan

SAFF CHAMPIONSHIP

N. Sudarshan
BENGALURU

Fresh after the resounding success at the Intercontinental Cup in Bhubaneswar, India will begin its quest for a second title in less than a month when it takes on Pakistan in the SAFF Championship opener here on Wednesday.

India, the defending champion and eight-time winner, will be returning to the Sree Kanteerava Stadium after more than five and a half years.

The last match was in October 2017 against Macau, a 4-1 win which sealed India's spot in the 2019 AFC Asian Cup.

When India takes the field this time, Asian Cup will once again be in focus, for the SAFF event will form an important competition in the lead-up to the 2023 edition.

On paper, the Pakistan tie is winnable. India's South Asian neighbour is ranked 195, 94 places below India, and lost all three matches against Kenya, host Mauritius and Djibouti at the recently held fournation tournament.

It is also set to start the match with hardly any practice, for it would have arrived in Bengaluru only in the wee hours of Wednesday because of a delay in visa approval.

There is, however, some interest in Easah Suliman, a former England U-20 captain, who is now playing for Pakistan. India head coach Igor Stimac mentioned the 25-year-old fleetingly on Tuesday and said that Pakistan could well be the "surprise of the tournament."

"I watched the game Pakistan played against Kenya, which is No. 102, and Pakistan were the better side," Stimac said.

"They have six or seven players who have developed abroad. There are two players playing in England, one in Denmark in the first tier. So let's not speak about rankings."

Sunil Chhetri & Co. will no doubt be bolstered by crowd support. A match against Pakistan, regardless of the sport, needs no invitation, and authorities said more than 10,000 tickets had already been sold.

It's a relief that the geopolitical tensions that plague cricketing ties between the countries haven't quite percolated to football and the hope is for fans to experience some riveting action.

In right earnest: The Indian team trains ahead of its opener against Pakistan. K. MURALI KUMAR

Hyderabad loses spot in Formula E, but all is not lost yet

S. Dipak Ragav
CHENNAI

Hyderabad, which hosted India's first Formula E (fully electric single-seater championship) race earlier this year, does not figure in the provisional calendar for the 2023-24 season released on Tuesday. However, there is still a chance the race could return to India as two dates in February have been marked as 'TBD' (To Be Determined).

A top-level motorsport event returned to India earlier this year with the Hyderabad E-Prix, a round of the FIA Formula E championship.

The race was held on February 11 this year, and a slot is available on February 10, 2024. That is where Hyderabad is likely to be slotted in, the other option being February 24.

Before this, India last hosted an FIA event in 2013 with the third and final Indian Grand Prix Formula One race.

Alberto Longo, co-founder and chief championship officer, in a chat with a select group of Indian media, including *The Hindu*, during the Jakarta EPrix earlier this month, expressed confidence in returning to India next year.

When asked whether the race will be on the calendar, Longo said, "At the moment, it is not. We are having discussions and working on it even though everything was a massive success.

"Formula E is passionate about coming back, and that is a fact. But some work is still going on, and we need to finalise it.

"For the June announcement (calendar), I am not confident, but for October, we will be fine to do the race for many years hopefully."

AITA names men's and women's teams for Asian Games

Sports Bureau
NEW DELHI

The All India Tennis Association (AITA) has announced the team for the Asian Games to be held in Hangzhou, China, from September 23.

Anil Dhupar, secretary-general of AITA, stated that the chairman of the professional selection committee Nandan Bal, after considering the suggestions from the committee members and team captains, recommended the 12-member squad.

The team:

Men: Sumit Nagal, Sasikumar Mukund, Ramkumar Ramanathan, Yuki Bhambri, Rohan Bopanna and Saketh Myneni. **Captain:** Rohit Rajpal.

Women: Ankita Raina, Karman Kaur Thandi, Rutuja Bhossale, Sahaja Yamalapalli, Vaidehi Chaudhari, Prarthana Thombare. **Captain:** Ankita Bhambri.

INBRIEF

Ironmen rule the roost in Premier Handball League

Maharashtra Ironmen was on top of the table with 14 points (seven wins in eight matches) as the Premier Handball League entered the third week at Jaipur. Telugu Talons (12 points, six victories in eight games) was second followed by Rajasthan Patriots (eight points, four wins in seven matches).

The results: Maharashtra Ironmen bt Delhi Panzers 42-33; Rajasthan Patriots bt Golden Eagles UP 40-37; Ironmen bt Garvit Gujarat 35-30; Telugu Talons bt Patriots 28-24; Golden Eagles bt Garvit 34-28; Talons bt Panzers 26-23; Patriots bt Golden Eagles 36-27; Ironmen bt Panzers 40-31; Talons bt Patriots 33-22; Ironmen bt Garvit 33-32; Talons bt Golden Eagles 26-25; Panzers bt Garvit 41-35; Ironmen bt Golden Eagles 28-27; Patriots bt Panzers 35-30.

Sandesh Jhingan joins FC Goa on a three-year deal

FC Goa has confirmed the signing of Indian defender Sandesh Jhingan on a deal till 2026, the Indian Super League side confirmed on Tuesday. The 29-year-old, who has featured for Kerala Blasters, ATK Mohun Bagan, and Bengaluru FC, joins the Gaurs as they look for a revamp under new head coach Manolo Marquez.

England and France win again, Swiss held

Harry Kane and Kylian Mbappe carried on scoring as England and France made it four straight wins in European Championship qualifying while Switzerland dropped its first points.

Important results: Group B: France 1 (Mbappe 55-pen) bt Greece 0.
Group C: Ukraine 1 (Tsygankov 72-pen) bt Malta 0; England 7 (Kane 29, 73-pen, Saka 38, 47, 51, Rashford 51, Phillips 64) bt North Macedonia 0.

Group I: Switzerland 2 (Amdouni 28, 41) drew with Romania 2 (Mihaila 89, 90+2).

LIVE TELECAST

CWC 2023 Qualifiers: Star Sports 1 (SD & HD), Hotstar & FanCode, 12.30 p.m.
TNPL: Star Sports 3 & FanCode, 3.15 & 7.15 p.m.
PHL: Sports 18-1 (SD & HD) & Jio Cinema App, 7 & 8.30 p.m.
FIH Pro League: SS Select 1, 2 (SD & HD) & Hotstar, 10.10 p.m. & 12.10 a.m. (Thursday)

Satwiksairaj hails doubles coach Boe's influence

The champion terms Indonesian Open triumph as one of the biggest achievements; wants to earn a reputation of being invincible along with double partner Chirag

BADMINTON

V.V. Subrahmanyam
HYDERABAD

Smiles all around: Chief national coach Gopi Chand, Satwiksairaj, Chirag and doubles coach Mathias Boe after the historic win. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

R. Satwiksairaj, fresh from a historic men's doubles victory, partnering Chirag Shetty, in the Indonesia Open last Sunday, said, "it is now three vs two when we take on the opponents as Mathias Boe (doubles specialist coach) is omnipresent when we take on the best."

In an exclusive chat with *The Hindu* on returning home on Tuesday, the 23-year-old Satwik said, "though we enter the court with a clear strategy, there are moments during the match when Boe chips in with invaluable advice. His emphasis on reminding us the 'key points' during a contest have had a telling effect."

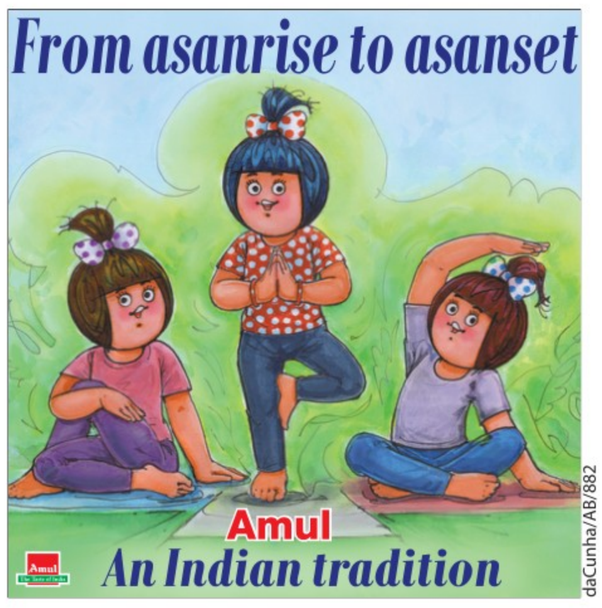
"Boe joined us at the right time two years ago and ever since there has been a lot of change in our mindset, approach, and attitude.

"We are far more confident, definitely not complacent, and very clear in our task. The Indonesian doubles triumph is one of the biggest achievements of our life."

What are the areas of focus now? "Need to work more on body language, attitude, and mindset. We are targeting a mindset which fetched us convincing wins against the World No. 1 pair and the reigning world champions in Indonesia. That is the hunger we should have consistently," Satwik said.

"We want to earn that kind of reputation of being invincible, instil that kind of fear and respect for us where the opponents concede a few easy points very early in a match," he said.

"The secret of our success is that we complement each other in defence and attack. We know when to swap the roles under pressure," added a confident Satwik.



Women's Emerging Asia Cup: India, Bangladesh in final

Press Trust of India
MONG KOK (HONG KONG)

The India U-23 team will take on Bangladesh in the summit clash of the Women's Emerging Asia Cup after its semifinal against Sri Lanka was washed out without a ball being bowled here on Tuesday.

The semifinal fixture between India and Sri Lanka was originally scheduled for Monday but the match was postponed by a day due to rain. In a bizarre run of events, India has played only one game in the run-up to the final, its opener against hosts Hong Kong, which it won by nine wickets. India's other three matches were washed out without a ball being bowled.

BENGALURU ROUND-UP

Hrishikesh, Akshay do the 'trick in Sumurai Bangalore's big win

Hrishikesh Singh and Akshay Kuke scored hat-tricks for Sumurai Bangalore FA in a 8-0 win over VPS in the KSFA Bangalore North & South 'C' division league football championship here on Tuesday.

The results: Playsmart FC 4 (Sanasam Lenin Meitei 6, Aasif Moindeen 14, 20, 29) bt Willow Sports 0; Maza FC 2 (Vikupu 25, Bobby Singh 58) bt FCA FC 1 (Mallesh 63); Sumurai Bangalore FA 8 (Hrishikesh Singh 13, 54, 69, R. Nishal 16, Akshay Kuke 18, 49, 61, Jaiki Yoshida 29) bt VPS 0; Ronaldo FC 4 (Niranjan 4, Komilton Karbi Maring 53, Abil John Sunny 60, Nujahid J. 69) bt FX FC 1 (Christopher 56).

Sachin's ton highlights Minerva CC's victory

M.P. Sachin Pande (112) powered Minerva Cricket Club to victory against Cavaliers Cricket Club in the KSCA III Division, Group I league tournament here.

The scores: Bangalore Sports Club 245 in 49.3 overs (Nilesh Khilare 87, B.C. Vinay 60, J. Karthik 28, B.N. Abhyudaya Udupa 3/29) lost to Whirlwind Cricketers 246/8 in 44 overs (Naveen 95, Anirudha Joshi 46, Gyan Somaiah 39, Sunil Kumar 3/54).

Minerva Cricket Club 258 in 48.3 overs (M.P. Sachin Pande 112, Jairam Srinivas 98 n.o., Akshath Prabhakar 3/38, Shivam Shukla 3/43) bt Cavaliers Cricket Club 198 in 47.4 overs (Kaushik Nair 70, Sachin Sreedhar 33, P.G. Sushameendra Achar 3/26).

Friends Union Cricket Club (2) 85 in 29 overs (V. Saatwik 26, Gaurov Shanbhag 4/21, Krishav Somasundar 3/19) lost to Malleswaram Gymkhana 86/5 in 19.1 overs (C.R. Kumarswamy 51).

Naidu's efforts fashion Heron's win

Nithin Naidu's (4/49 & 8/68) efforts ensured Herons Cricket Club's win against Jawahar Sports Club (1) by three wickets in the KSCA II Division, Group I league tournament here on Tuesday.

The scores: Herons Cricket Club 299 in 67.2 overs (Vineeth Manjunath 154, Rohith Gowda 76, S.P. Arjun 28, Sourab Muttur 7/91) and 73/7 in 16.1 overs (Suhasa Adiga 37, Jayesh Babu 4/30) bt Jawahar Sports Club (1) 174 in 48.2 overs (Sourab Muttur 34, Jayesh Babu 30, Amogh Srikanth 4/38, Nithin Naidu 4/49) and 197 in 55.1 overs (S. Chaitanya 65, Raghuveer 60, Nithin Naidu 8/68).

Chintamani Sports Association, Chintamani 156 in 38.1 overs (Rajshekar Harikant 25, Kazi Abrar 4/24, N. Rohan 3/32) and 112 in 35.3 overs (Rajshekar Harikant 50, Mir Kaunain Abbas 25, Kazi Abrar 7/44) lost to Wilson Garden Cricket Club 131 in 36.3 overs (Raghuveer Rajpurohit 39, Nathan D' Mello 8/71) and 93/2 in 17.1 overs (M.K. Yashwanth 39, Raghuveer Rajpurohit 26 n.o.).

Vijaya Cricket Club 414/6 decl. in 86 overs (Prakhar Chaturvedi 140, A. Yuvraj 94, Thippa Reddy 71, Maliksab Shirur 33 n.o., N. Samarth 31, K. Rakshith 4/61) drew with Jawahar Sports Club (2) 337 in 83.3 overs (Shreyas M.V. Gowda 90, R.V. Nikhil Vedanth 80, M.P. Samarth 33, Maribasava Gowda 5/66).

Visweswarapuram Cricket Club (1) 335 in 77 overs (H. Sarvesh Raju 145, Anupam 59, Ishaan S 28, Preetesh 25, Amogh S 4/134 Gourav K 3/52) drew with Jawans Cricket Club 346/5 in 66.5 overs (Sumit Kumar 108 n.o., S.U. Karthik 89, Harshil 57, C.R. Aiyappa 47, U. Karan 29).

Jupiter Cricketers Association 273 in 75.3 overs (Prajwal Prakash 112, Harshith Poojary 44, Mashooq Hussain 40, S. Chiranth 29, Mitrakant Singh Yadav 5/104) drew with Century Cricketers 391/5 in 73 overs (B. Dheemanth 165, Ayudh Sharma 60, Harsha Wardhan Khuba 54, Ashish Dhar 53, L. Manvanth Kumar 31).

The Bangalore Cricketers 292 in 81.1 overs (R. Akshay 116, K.B. Shreyas 36, S. Chethan 71, Manjunath 26, Pranesh Desai 4/88) drew with Modern Cricket Club 280 in 68.1 overs (S.A. Sachin 75, Pranav Aswath 64, Karthik Ramanna 36, Premnath J. Gode 31, M.R. Jayanth 26, R. Akshay 3/28, Manjunath 3/48).

Parvez Ahmed in lead

Parvez Ahmed took the lead at the end of Week 1 of the Karnataka State tenpin bowling league at Amoeba Bowling Center here.

At the end of 6 games in Block 1 on Long oil pattern, Parvez scored an average of 204.

Parvez scored above 200 in five out of six games (200, 203, 213, 224, 184 and 200), and finished the block with total pinfall of 1224. Sahil Punjabi is in second position (1093).

Another shot in the arm for Bazball, the way cricket should be played

BETWEEN WICKETS
Suresh Menon

In the end it didn't matter whether England won or lost the Edgbaston Test. Importantly, they began the Ashes as they had been playing for the last year or so, embedding 'Bazball' deeper into the lexicon of the game. They stuck to their new philosophy. They ran towards the danger in the evocative words of skipper Ben Stokes.

Bazball is as much about batting attractively as bowling with purpose. Other countries have played similar cricket, but not with such consistency and not with such a passion. Test cricket needs this to remain above white ball formats as the finest expression of the sport. Other coaches, and other countries ought to be influenced now. There will be the occasional loss, but it makes for great viewing.

Meet fire with fire

Bazball is fun, attractive, stimulating, challenging – and you can add to that list. It is an approach to playing cricket, and is startling only because it is being employed at the highest level by England. Australia tried countering it in the early part of the Edgbaston Test by going in the opposite direction – with a version of grim, defensive cricket. But fire needs to be met with fire.

Internal logic

Sometimes Bazball can be confusing; the argument perhaps is that if it is confusing to the opposition, then it doesn't matter if it is also confusing to commentators and columnists too. Bazball might have upset the internal logic of cricket, but that assumes any sport has an internal logic. What 'internal logic' means is convention; Bazball upsets the conventions of cricket.

Usually in sport, the coach adapts a style to suit the players available, not the other way around. England's coach Brendon McCullum and Stokes first decided what their style would be and then got the players on board. Virtually the same team that won just one of seventeen Tests under Joe Root previously began by winning 11 of 13 Tests.

It is a style that by its nature tends to irritate the opposition. Players are patently having fun, laughing and smiling on the field. They make the opposition look like old-fashioned plodders, a little too keen on winning and willing to do whatever it takes to put it across the Bazballers.

Stokes, seen as a combination of Mike Brearley and Rowan Atkinson, intellectual and funster, stands tall. He calculates (probably not consciously, but in effect) that when he does something apparently silly and it pays off, then the successes are remembered more than the failures.

Who else would have asked a 36-year-old off spinner who retired from Tests two years ago to reconnect with his flannels? Moeen Ali bowled 33 overs, more than any other England bowler in the first innings, and dismissed two top players.

He wasn't an unqualified success then and might have to dip his bowling finger in a bucket of urine for its callous, just like a predecessor Graeme Swann claimed to have done. But no player was likely to give up a chance to be part of a revolution.

Innovative

Who else would have declared at 393 in the first innings, with his best batsman, and centurion Joe Root at the crease? Who else would have had a field like that to Usman Khawaja, a sort of inverted slip cordon or out-of-shape umbrella? It looked ridiculous till it achieved its aim – Khawaja inner-edging onto the stumps. The Australian firstclass player Keith Carmody is credited with inventing the umbrella field, sometimes called the Carmody field in Australia. Perhaps Stokes needs to have his name stamped on the reverse umbrella field – and on some others too!

Genius or gambler?

Genius or gambler? Great captains have a bit of both in them, although the proportions vary. Brearley was closer to genius, Mahendra Singh Dhoni closer to the other. The only justification in sport is success. Dhoni's biggest gamble, giving the ball to Joginder Sharma in the final over of the 2007 T20 World Cup, paid off handsomely. When that happens, the gamblers are considered geniuses!

The beauty of Bazball is its clarity among the players – no confusion there. Each one knows his role, knows the limit and its extension, and everyone plays for the captain.

Would a lesser captain who plays by the book be as inspiring? It is not a perfect system – any perfect system will quickly become boring – yet Bazball continues to show the path. It will have its critics, but England are laughing all the way into history.

Senior Natl. Water Polo and Diving from June 21

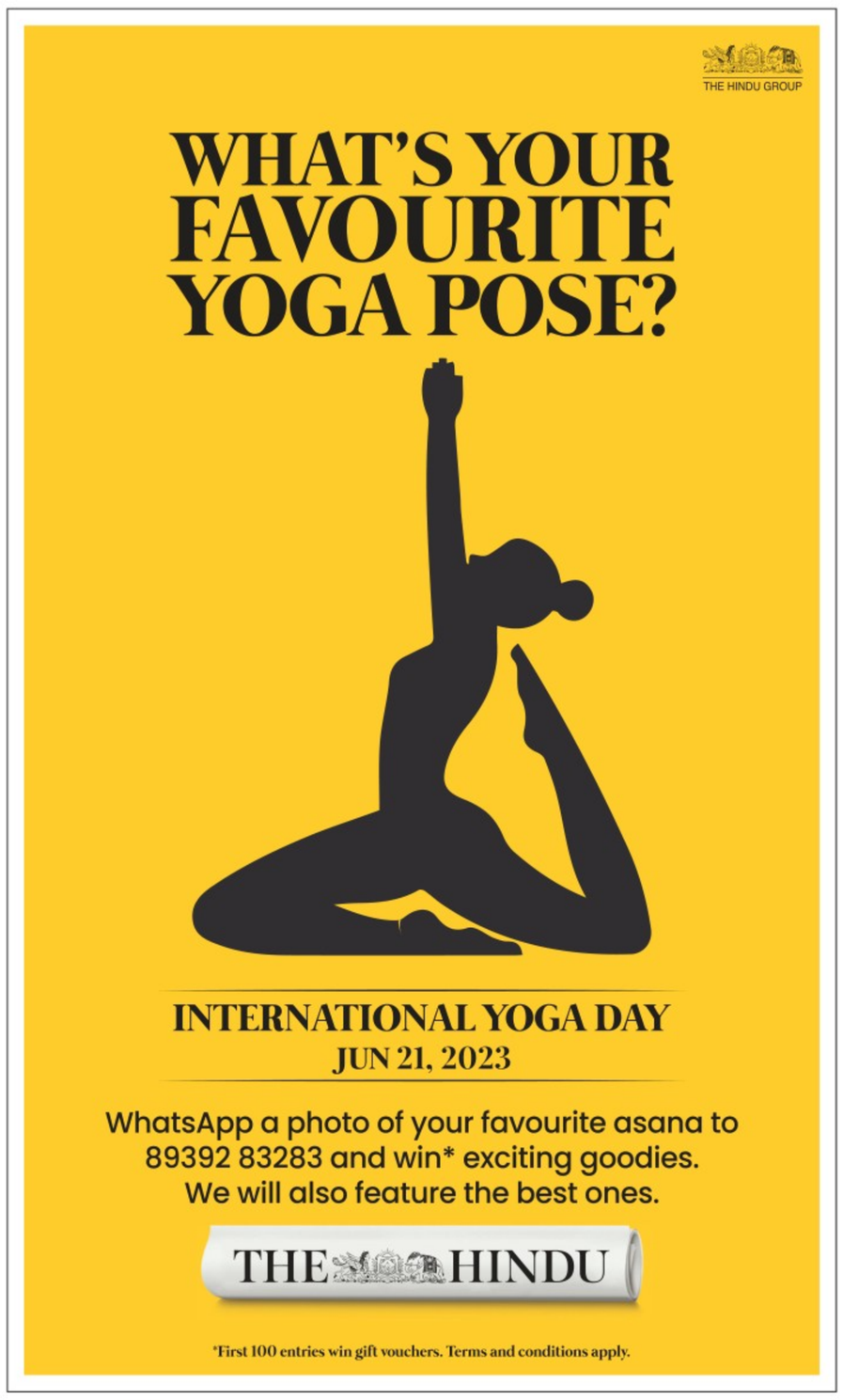
Sports Bureau
BENGALURU

The Karnataka Swimming Association (KSA) will host the 76th Senior National Water Polo and Diving Championship here from June 21 to 25.

This marks the first year where water polo and diving are being held separately, for until now they were clubbed with swimming.

"Water polo and diving were not given much importance as compared to the various swimming formats," said Gopal Hosur, president, KSA.

"So the SFI decided to separate swimming from water polo and diving by making them two exclusive National events."

A total of 12 teams in the men's category and nine among women will be participating. Manipur will not be competing because of the ongoing unrest in the State.

When asked about the qualification criteria for water polo for the upcoming Asian Games, Sundaresh, joint-secretary, KSA, said, "Unlike diving where there are minimum points, there is no defined criteria for selection but the players and team's performance will be assessed in this championship."